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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE OIL PROJECT  
PUBLIC MEETING

\* \* \*

Reed Center  
5800 Will Rogers Road  
Ballroom  
Oklahoma City, OK 73110  
Friday, September 30, 2011

The public meeting commenced at 4:30 p.m.,  
Maryruth Coleman and Greg Maggio, presiding officers.

1 P R O C E E D I N G

2 MS. COLEMAN: I'd appreciate it if you  
3 would take your seats. Thank you. My name is  
4 Maryruth Coleman and I work at the U.S. Department of  
5 State and my colleague, Greg Maggio is also a State  
6 Department Officer and we are here today to listen to  
7 your comments regarding the national interest  
8 determination for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

9 On behalf of the Department of State, we  
10 would like to thank you for joining us at this public  
11 meeting in Oklahoma City. I would also like to thank  
12 Reed Center for agreeing to host this meeting.

13 The purpose is for members of the public  
14 to express their views on whether issuing a permit  
15 for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline is in the U.S.  
16 national interest. To focus time on your comments,  
17 today we will be listening to your views and won't be  
18 engaging in answering questions. And that's the same  
19 procedures at all the public meetings that we are  
20 having in Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, here in Oklahoma,  
21 Montana, Washington, D.C.

22 We appreciate the interest of everyone

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1     here in this important issue and that you are taking  
2     time to come and share your views. We take your  
3     comments seriously, and we will consider them very  
4     carefully.

5             We understand that there are strong views  
6     and feelings about this issue. We therefore ask you  
7     to respect the rules that we have established so we  
8     can hear from as many of you as possible.

9             Most importantly, we ask that the audience  
10    be fair and respectful to everyone who has come and  
11    who writes us to speak.

12            Before we begin, we would like to describe  
13    the Department of State's role in the Presidential  
14    Permitting process and lay out the ground rules for  
15    participating in this meeting.

16            Just before that, can everyone hear?  
17    There is a little echo here so I want to make sure.  
18    Okay thanks.

19            In September 2008, TransCanada Keystone  
20    Pipeline, LP filed an application for a Presidential  
21    Permit for a proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

22            Executive Order 13337, signed on April 30,

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1     2004, delegates to the Department of State the  
2     authority to issue a Presidential Permit for  
3     facilities such as the Keystone XL pipeline that  
4     cross the U.S. border.

5             In considering such a permit, the  
6     Department of State identifies whether allowing the  
7     border crossing is in the U.S. national interest. We  
8     take into account environmental and safety issues, as  
9     well as energy security, foreign policy, and social  
10    and economic concerns.

11            In addition to the Executive Order, the  
12    Department determined, because of the importance of  
13    the proposed pipeline, that it would evaluate the  
14    pipeline's possible environmental and safety impacts  
15    consistent with the National Environmental Policy  
16    Act.

17            As a consequence, the State Department  
18    prepared an Environmental Impact Statement that in  
19    order to evaluate a proposed pipeline's potential  
20    environmental and safety impacts. This statement was  
21    prepared over the past 2-1/2 years and we have  
22    conducted some 41 public meetings along the pipeline

1 route and in Washington, D.C., to gather public  
2 comments in developing the draft and scope of this  
3 impact statement.

4 On August 26, the State Department  
5 released the Final Environmental Impact Study, which  
6 addresses the more than 250,000 comments from the  
7 public. The Final Environmental Impact Statement is  
8 just one factor considered in the review process. It  
9 does not represent a final decision on the pipeline  
10 permit application.

11 Now, as we move into the national interest  
12 determination, the Department of State is compiling  
13 additional information to determine this project,  
14 proposed project is in the national interest and  
15 decide whether or not to issue the permit.

16 Why don't we turn to a few ground rules as  
17 to how we want to run our meeting. We hope to have  
18 the opportunity to listen to everyone who wishes to  
19 speak, and in order to allow the maximum amount of  
20 participation we ask that you limit your comments to  
21 no more than three minutes.

22 Given the large audience, it may not be  
23

1 possible for everyone to speak. If you do not have  
2 that opportunity, please provide your written  
3 comments on the back of the sheet of paper that you  
4 got when you came in the door and leave them on the  
5 table back over there, or submit written comments by  
6 fax, email, or online.

7 We will consider all such comments the  
8 same as if they were communicated to us here today.

9 Speakers will make their comments on a  
10 first come/first served basis by assigned number,  
11 having signed in personally at the door.

12 After a speaker ends the next number and  
13 name will be called. We have two microphones, so we  
14 would like to have the odd numbers over here to my  
15 right, the even numbers on this mike to my left. And  
16 what I'd like to do is, if I call one or two, then  
17 maybe three and four kind of come up behind them.  
18 That would make it much more efficient and we can get  
19 more people to express their views.

20 Since we cannot anticipate how long or how  
21 many people will speak, we cannot estimate exactly  
22 when your number will be called.

23

1                   When you come to the microphone, we ask  
2     that you state your name and affiliation and also, we  
3     request that you spell your name for the benefit of  
4     our court recorder who is going to take down the  
5     comments that we will have them in Washington to put  
6     into the record.

7                   As you speak, you will be timed for the  
8     three minutes. My colleague to the far right has the  
9     cards that will let you know you have two minutes  
10    left, a minute, and then the red card goes up that  
11    indicates that you are out of time. I really would  
12    deeply request that you kind of glance at the cards  
13    as you speak and if you have comments that are  
14    written, that often takes too long to read through  
15    your statement, that you put the statement on the  
16    table to be sent to Washington and that you just  
17    speak from the heart and tell us what you think about  
18    this project and its interest for the United States.

19                  So if you run out of time, as I say, you  
20    can provide your comments in written format.

21                  All comments made here will be recorded by  
22    the court reporter. Written comments will be

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1       accepted until October 9, 2011.

2               Department of State officials are here to  
3       listen to you and will not be engaging in a question  
4       and answer period.

5               So again, if I can ask you please to allow  
6       each speaker to go without interruption, please do  
7       not converse right around the microphone and  
8       interfere with the speaker. Please do not walk up  
9       and down the aisle when there is a speaker in that  
10      aisle as it will be disturbing to them.

11              We request that there be no displays or  
12      signs held up in the hall. Please turn off your cell  
13      phones or set them to a silent setting.

14              We plan on ending this meeting at 10:20  
15      because there was a delay in beginning. Again, we  
16      wish to stress that the Department has not made a  
17      decision on the issue we are going to be discussing  
18      this afternoon and thank you again for your interest  
19      and coming today.

20              Now our first speakers, I'm going to turn  
21      to a few local officials, elected and appointed  
22      officials, who would like to speak and then we will

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1     proceed to #1.  So I'd like to call Lieutenant  
2     Governor Todd Lamb.

3     TODD LAMB:  Todd Lamb, Lieutenant Governor for the  
4     State of Oklahoma.  Thank you very much for the  
5     opportunity to share a few thoughts with you today.  
6     My name is Todd Lamb and as Oklahoma's Lieutenant  
7     Governor, I'm working to spur economic growth in our  
8     State.

9                 Oklahoma has a rich history and heritage  
10     in the energy industry.  Our impact is evident in our  
11     past, present, and will remain in the future.  We  
12     know what significant opportunity pipelines will  
13     bring to our job market and to our families.

14                I support the Keystone XL pipeline because  
15     of the economic benefit it will provide to Oklahoma.  
16     The pipeline is expected to create thousands of jobs  
17     in the State and will supply Canadian and domestic  
18     crude oil to refineries along the Tulsa-Texas-Gulf  
19     Coast.

20                Our State's economy is driven by the oil  
21     and gas industry and this pipeline will make it  
22     stronger.  Keystone XL means more construction jobs,

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1 more industry jobs, and more economic activity across  
2 our great state. Keystone XL is in our State's best  
3 interest.

4 Prior to my current position I served as a  
5 Special Agent with the United States Secret Service.  
6 In that role I was assigned to the National Joint  
7 Terrorism Task Force. I received training and  
8 briefings at the FBI and Secret Service headquarters,  
9 as well as the CIA headquarters in Langley, VA.

10 I support the Keystone XL pipeline not  
11 only due to economic or commercial reasons, I support  
12 the Keystone XL pipeline also because of my past  
13 experience in Homeland Security. I encourage the  
14 State Department to approve this project because it  
15 will also strengthen our national security and energy  
16 security.

17 Canada is our neighbor, our ally, and our  
18 largest trading partner. The pipeline would  
19 strengthen our two countries' relationship even more.

20 Politicians often talk about reducing our  
21 oil imports from the Middle East and other volatile  
22 regions around the world. This pipeline is a way to

1     actually do that. With a stable democratic  
2     government in Canada, strict environmental standards  
3     and, unlike the Middle East, the oil is conflict  
4     free. 700,000 barrels a day from Canada and domestic  
5     resources would help us reduce our oil imports from  
6     countries that are hostile to the United States.

7                 So today, I request that the State  
8     Department and the Obama Administration stand up for  
9     American workers, get our economy moving again, and  
10    approve the Keystone XL pipeline. I support the  
11    pipeline and hope that the State Department approves  
12    the project.

13                I appreciate the opportunity to speak here  
14    today. Thank you very much.

15                (Applause.)

16                MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
17    Now I would like to call Newcastle Vice Mayor Linda  
18    Molsbee.

19                MS. MOLSBEE: Good evening and thank you  
20    for allowing me to make a few comments today. I sit  
21    on the City Council of Newcastle and serve as Vice  
22    Mayor of a community of almost 8,000, located south  
23

1 of Oklahoma City.

2 Like the rest of the country, we are  
3 struggling as a result of the recession. I  
4 understand that there are environmental concerns over  
5 the pipeline, but considering the significant  
6 economic benefits that this project offers, it seems  
7 that there must be a way to alleviate those concerns  
8 and move forward.

9 The \$7 billion Keystone XL pipeline would  
10 create tens of thousands of U.S. jobs and add \$34  
11 billion to U.S. GDP and create energy security and  
12 bring in needed state and local revenue.

13 Oklahoma's unemployment rate is well below  
14 the national margin at 5.6% but this is still too  
15 high for those unable to find work. It is the  
16 responsibility of the government to create an  
17 environment that is conducive of job growth and what  
18 better opportunity than to allow a privately funded  
19 project to do just that.

20 This will cost taxpayers nothing, and that  
21 is their right considering the condition of the  
22 State's budget. For fiscal year 2012, Oklahoma has

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1 an expected budget shortfall of \$500 million. This  
2 figure is 9% of the total budget.

3 Keystone provides billions in tax dollars  
4 for state and local governments and states along the  
5 pipeline route. This is sorely needed revenue and  
6 really the best option as this is not the time to  
7 raise taxes. The environmental argument stems from  
8 opposition to Canadian oil sands but these resources  
9 will develop whether or not the U.S. is a recipient.

10 If we let these resources and the jobs and  
11 growth they can provide, go to China, it will be very  
12 hard to explain to voters in 2012. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

15 Third, I would like to introduce to the microphone,  
16 Oklahoma City Vice Mayor Meg Salyer and I believe she  
17 has a representative to deliver the comments for her.

18 MS. MILLER. Hello my name is Janelle  
19 Miller and I am here to speak on behalf of Meg Salyer  
20 who is the Vice Mayor of Oklahoma City. I will read  
21 her written statement.

22 Good afternoon. Thank you for allowing me

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1 to speak here today. My name is Meg Salyer. I am  
2 the Vice Mayor of Oklahoma City. I am also a small  
3 business owner and have been actively involved in  
4 redevelopment efforts here in the city since the  
5 Murrah federal building bombing in 1995.

6 The Keystone XL pipeline presents a  
7 tremendous opportunity, not only for Oklahoma, but  
8 also for our entire nation. It would secure a  
9 dependable supply of energy for businesses and  
10 families, provided by a country that is not only  
11 geographically close but also has close economic and  
12 cultural ties to the United States.

13 In addition to enhancing our energy  
14 security, Keystone XL would support development of  
15 the Canadian Oil sands reserve creating an estimated  
16 340,000 U.S. jobs and generating \$34 billion in  
17 government revenue.

18 Pipeline construction alone would mean an  
19 additional 13,000 high wage jobs for American  
20 workers. Oklahoma, like several other states would  
21 receive a huge economic boost from Keystone XL.

22 It is estimated that this pipeline project  
23

1     would trigger \$1.2 billion in spending here, support  
2     14,400 jobs in a wide variety of industries and  
3     increase personal income by \$875 million.

4             Our gross state product would rise by \$1  
5     billion and state and local governments would collect  
6     \$25 million in additional tax revenue, plus over \$600  
7     million in property taxes during pipeline operation.

8             At a time when the federal government is  
9     considering yet another round of hundred billion  
10    dollar stimulus programs in an effort to put people  
11    to work, revive our economy, and balance the budget,  
12    approving Keystone XL seems like a no-brainer to me.

13            I understand concerns of the environmental  
14    impact of Keystone XL on our state, but I believe  
15    that a close examination of the facts proves that  
16    Keystone is our best option.

17            Canadian oil sands will come to the United  
18    States one way or another, if not through a pipeline  
19    like Keystone then via truck or rail car. One  
20    pipeline moves as much petroleum per day as 750  
21    tanker trucks or a 75 tanker long train.

22            Statistics prove that pipelines are by far

1 the safest method of transporting oil. Building  
2 Keystone XL would protect highway and community  
3 safety, as well as our environment.

4 The State Department itself has conducted  
5 extensive reviews of Keystone XL and concluded that  
6 it would have no significant environmental impact.  
7 It would, however, have a very significant and long-  
8 lasting positive impact on the U.S., Oklahoma, and  
9 Oklahoma City economies.

10 MS. COLEMAN: We are up to the time.  
11 Would it be possible for you to go to the very end?

12 MS. MILLER: I'm at the end. I urge the  
13 State Department to give final approval. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Now I  
16 would like to introduce County Commissioner Brian  
17 Loan.

18 MR. LOAN: Thank you for having me here  
19 today. I appreciate it very much. I am here to  
20 speak in favor of the Keystone XL pipeline and  
21 expansion for the nation's energy security and  
22 economic growth.

23



1           And as you indicated, I will largely just  
2   read from the heart because I will submit my formal  
3   record to the panel here today.

4           But as the County Commissioner, we have  
5   largely funded our county government and, of course,  
6   our school system off of property taxes and I'm  
7   particularly impressed by the figures that we've been  
8   able to research at the county Commission that this  
9   project, as already mentioned in earlier testimony,  
10   would generate about \$1.2 billion in revenue but  
11   particularly of that, \$667 million in extra property  
12   taxes here for Oklahoma.

13           That isn't about all the other states, but  
14   that's here and with all the budget shortfalls that  
15   we have ranging all over the country, from things  
16   such as budget crunch nationally and not getting  
17   federal grants, but also our state is having to look  
18   at ways to cut back and so it's been absolutely vital  
19   that we be able to look for every resourceful way to  
20   fund our government, including our county government,  
21   which services its first responders and also  
22   particularly, of course, our education because we

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1       must always be looking at the future.

2                   And it's been endorsed by our Governor,  
3       obviously you just heard from our Lieutenant  
4       Governor, both of our U.S. Senators, and on their  
5       behalf, we appreciate your consideration and I would  
6       particularly like to point out that while the numbers  
7       are impressive, behind them are real working men and  
8       women. And for Oklahoma business and local  
9       governments to provide these essential services that  
10      I mentioned, Keystone will provide what America has  
11      always promised to its people, and that's  
12      opportunity.

13                   And at a time when our nation is engaged  
14      in great national debate about how to get the world's  
15      largest economy started again and put people back to  
16      work, this project gives us the answer concretely and  
17      to best expand and hire. And I strongly urge you to  
18      consider the Keystone XL and I appreciate your time  
19      here today.

20                   (Applause.)

21                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
22      Now I would like to introduce the Honorable Charles  
23

1     Gray, State Representative. I believe his comments  
2     may be read by a representative. Please state your  
3     name for the record. Thank you.

4             MR. MERTENS: My name is Allen Mertens.  
5     I'm speaking on behalf of the Honorable Charlie Grey.  
6     Charlie couldn't be here, his wife has some severe  
7     health problems. It's Allen Mertens.

8             For the past 18 years I have maintained an  
9     investment advisory practice here in Oklahoma City.

10            Charlie is a former member of the Oklahoma  
11     Legislature and a former Candidate for a seat on the  
12     Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Charlie Grey  
13     supports the Keystone XL project. He believes the  
14     beneficial effect it would have on the U.S. economy  
15     and the jobs it would provide, more than justify its  
16     construction.

17            This privately funded project would put  
18     hundreds of thousands of Americans to work, add  
19     hundreds of billions of dollars to our gross domestic  
20     product, and secure a steady flow of over one million  
21     barrels of oil per day for U.S. businesses and  
22     consumers.

23

1           In Oklahoma, Keystone XL would support an  
2     estimated 14,000 jobs, creating more than \$870  
3     million in personal income. It would generate \$25  
4     million in state and local tax revenues during  
5     construction and establish an ongoing stream of  
6     property tax revenue that would bring in \$667 million  
7     in coming years to support public services, schools,  
8     and other government functions.

9           The potential economic impact of Keystone  
10    is well known, but it's effect on our environment is  
11    another matter. There has been a lot of emotional  
12    opposition to Keystone from people worried about the  
13    possibility of spills or other environmental damage.

14          As someone with a long track record of  
15    support for environmental issues, Charlie takes those  
16    concerns seriously but he believes that the  
17    ecological risk of this project has been overstated.

18          The State Department has spent three years  
19    conducting a comprehensive, independent environmental  
20    review of Keystone XL. They found no evidence to  
21    suggest that the pipeline itself or the oil it will  
22    contain, pose any undue threat to wildlife, humans,

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1 communities, or natural resources.

2 In fact, there is ample historical data  
3 that proves pipelines are considerably safer than the  
4 method of transporting petroleum that involves rail,  
5 tanker trucks, or other alternatives.

6 The Oklahoma economy is strong compared to  
7 many other states. Over the last few years, we have  
8 consistently outperformed most regions of the country  
9 and currently we enjoy an unemployment rate that is a  
10 full 3 percent lower than the national average.

11 There is no question that our State's  
12 vibrant oil and natural gas industry has played a  
13 significant role in our success. If we want to keep  
14 on providing Oklahomans with jobs and Oklahoma  
15 families with a decent standard of living, we must  
16 continue to support common sense energy production  
17 projects.

18 Keystone XL is just such a project and  
19 Charlie urges that we approve its completion. Thank  
20 you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

23

1 Now I would like to call to the microphone, Secretary  
2 of Energy Mike Ming.

3 MR. MING: Welcome to Oklahoma. My name  
4 is Mike Ming. I serve as the Secretary of Energy for  
5 Governor Mary Fallon. I'd like to thank you for your  
6 efforts to capture input from the public and I would  
7 also like to reference a April 20th letter, cosigned  
8 by Governor Fallon and Senators Inoff and Coburn,  
9 articulating their support for the Keystone XL  
10 pipeline.

11 Modern society runs on energy. Energy  
12 powers the economy, and a strong economy is highly  
13 correlated to a clean environment. Because a strong  
14 economy enables a strong and stable system of  
15 government, which allows a strong environmental  
16 protection.

17 They are inextricably linked, but this is  
18 more than just the economy, it's also national  
19 security and geopolitical stability.

20 Strong regional stable and securing energy  
21 supplies are critical in North America, due to rising  
22 global energy demands, especially in Asia.

23

1                   The Canadian oil reserves will be  
2   developed because market demand exists. But Keystone  
3   XL will also positively impact U.S. production in the  
4   Northern Rockies and the Mid-continent, and  
5   importantly allow full transparency and efficiency in  
6   allowing free capital markets to function.

7                   Keystone XL provides efficient  
8   transportation and liquidity for functioning oil  
9   markets throughout North America. More locally to  
10   Oklahoma, the project does provide critical jobs and  
11   additional oil markets to the Gulf Coast.

12                  Importantly, the critical additional take  
13   away capacity will address an unprecedented price  
14   differential which can currently be arbitrated by  
15   some but certainly not by all.

16                  This increased capacity will therefore  
17   allow consumers to benefit from a fully open pricing  
18   market.

19                  Environmental protection and economic  
20   development can coexist. I appreciate the  
21   opportunity to speak on behalf of the State of  
22   Oklahoma and Governor Mary Fallon and urge

1       expeditious approval of this important project.

2       Thank you.

3                       (Applause.)

4                       MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

5       Now I'd like to recognize Secretary of Commerce, Dave  
6       Lopez.

7                       MR. LOPEZ: I want to thank the State  
8       Department for the opportunity to not only express  
9       our sentiments, but also for the scrutiny you have  
10      given this project.

11                      Again, my name is Dave Lopez. I want to  
12      take up the suggestion from speaking from the heart  
13      because this is a project that does touch our heart.  
14      Certainly it's been talked about, about the jobs  
15      impacts, those are real. I think the expectations  
16      will be realized, once the project goes forward.

17                      There has been some concerns that these  
18      would be temporary jobs but what's not temporary is  
19      the assets it leaves behind and what that means to  
20      the State of Oklahoma and what that means to the  
21      nation as it has been articulated by others.

22                      The second of just a handful of points I

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1     want to share with you is the impact -- and I think  
2     the Secretary made reference that it can have on the  
3     nation's, the State's revenues if we are able to take  
4     off the discount that in effect applies to the oil  
5     supplies that are in Cushing and this Keystone  
6     project will help unlock the flow of oil from those  
7     tanks in Cushing to other markets and should help us  
8     boost the revenues as a result.

9             The third is, Canada is our number one  
10    trade partner, as a nation, as a state, and there is  
11    something about the word "partner" that tells me when  
12    a partner brings something that they scrutinize the  
13    thing has value, that we should accept it, because I  
14    think they would expect the same of us going across  
15    to their border.

16            The fourth is something sometimes  
17    overlooked, what we're finding in the economic  
18    development is the ultimate team game, communities,  
19    together with the state and the nation working  
20    together, have the vitality that we're blessed with  
21    at the moment in Oklahoma. But that also means that  
22    it's not just the original company that brings the

1 jobs, but the supply chains they bring with them.

2 Oklahoma has been often overlooked for its  
3 values. We believe when we get people here, they  
4 start to understand the magic that we think Oklahoma  
5 is all about.

6 If we get those supply chain vendors for  
7 this project here, we like our chances of letting  
8 them know what Oklahoma can do for them beyond this  
9 project.

10 And the last one is really to the social  
11 aspect that you mentioned, and it's one that perhaps  
12 is a bit interesting to people, that this is a  
13 project that is supported both by management and  
14 labor. I spent a good part of my career working with  
15 a very positive union. They challenged our company.  
16 I think they made us better, they made us focus on  
17 quality, even when it may have been difficult, and  
18 that's what's happening with this Keystone project.

19 The company I worked for is a little  
20 regional telephone company called Southwestern Bell.  
21 Now it's the largest telecom in the world. I think  
22 there is something from a social aspect, when we have

23

1 labor and management working this closely together,  
2 that really is power to the middle class. And I  
3 thank you for your consideration and I recommend your  
4 approval.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
7 Now I'd like to recognize State Representative Danny  
8 Morgan.

9 MR. MORGAN: Mr. Lopez it's tough  
10 following you, let me light the mike up a little bit.  
11 Thank you very much for the opportunity to make our  
12 presentations today. Welcome to Oklahoma

13 I'm here to speak on behalf -- by the way  
14 it's Danny Morgan -- I'm here to speak on behalf of  
15 the constituent I represent in House District 32, I  
16 currently serve as their representative in the  
17 Oklahoma House of Representatives.

18 But I wanted to take a different approach  
19 than what I've heard today. You're going to hear  
20 about jobs and economic growth and the amount of  
21 money being spent on the project, which is all  
22 extraordinary to the State of Oklahoma and all those  
23

1     that are along the pipeline.

2                 I want to talk to you a little bit about  
3     infrastructure. I think it's well known across the  
4     country, but particularly in the state of Oklahoma,  
5     our roads and bridges in this State need a lot of  
6     work.

7                 So I'm here to kind of talk to you as a  
8     policymaker who says, if that 700,000, almost a  
9     quarter of a million barrels are moved any way other  
10    than through a pipeline, the tremendous stress that  
11    it's going to put on our infrastructure, particularly  
12    roads and bridges along this corridor is going to be  
13    experienced for many years to come.

14                A lot of which you are hearing about is an  
15    instant impact, short-term gains that we'll see. The  
16    infrastructure values is a long-term that generations  
17    from now will be able to still use that  
18    infrastructure that we've put in place from our  
19    surface roads and bridges if we don't have the demand  
20    of those trucks, and even rail, moving that  
21    commodity.

22                Want to also very briefly touch on the

23

1 fact that that pipeline will allow domestically  
2 produced oil and gas, particularly oil, to move out  
3 of Cushing, Oklahoma. Locally produced oil will also  
4 be allowed on that pipeline. So we're now adding  
5 value to a commodity that's produced here by a lot of  
6 independent oil and gas producers, mom and pop shops  
7 we call them around here, that allows them to get  
8 their pipeline into an international feed to get it  
9 to the Gulf Coast.

10 So those are the issues that I wanted to  
11 address to you today. I'm here to tell you that I'm  
12 very supportive of the plan and I hope that the State  
13 Department, and all phases of government will  
14 understand the dynamics, not just of the dollar  
15 value, but of the change that we can make in the  
16 demand on our infrastructure for generations to come.  
17 Thank you very much.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
20 Next I would like to recognize State Senator David  
21 Holt.

22 MR. HOLT: Thank you. I'm David Holt,

23

1     Senator here in Northwest Oklahoma City. I want to  
2     thank the State Department for an opportunity to  
3     comment on this issue of great importance to our  
4     state. Oklahomans respect the free market, we  
5     support energy exploration, and most of all we  
6     prioritize economic development.

7             The energy sector has been the driver of  
8     this State's economy for a century and it has  
9     remained so because we have supported it. We support  
10    the industry because energy is quite obviously a  
11    basic societal need and providing it has been a win-  
12    win for America and Oklahoma.

13            Americans have enjoyed relatively low cost  
14    energy, in many cases because of the innovations and  
15    hard work of Oklahomans and Oklahomans have enjoyed  
16    the benefits of providing that energy.

17            If you leave here today with nothing else,  
18    I hope it is with the clear understanding that the  
19    majority of Oklahomans strongly support the  
20    construction of this pipeline because American  
21    consumers need it, because it is in America's  
22    interest to accommodate the acquisition of affordable  
23

1 energy, and because construction and utilization of  
2 this pipeline will mean economic growth in Oklahoma  
3 and across the United States.

4 America is currently facing many  
5 challenges, some of our own creation. We should not  
6 add to our dilemma by dragging our feet on a critical  
7 infrastructure project that will have only beneficial  
8 economic effects for our nation.

9 The American people, and Oklahomans in  
10 particular, will not soon forgive us if we reject  
11 this pipeline and the benefits it will provide our  
12 economy.

13 The 78,000 Oklahomans I represent in the  
14 Oklahoma Senate, are people of common sense. Common  
15 sense demands approval of any project that will lower  
16 energy prices, create jobs and falls within our  
17 nation's long history of support for free market  
18 enterprise.

19 Support of this pipeline  
20 brings prosperity and opposition brings nothing.  
21 Economic growth in Oklahoma and our nation will not  
22 occur without support of bold ideas like this  
23 project. America's economy became the strongest in

1     the world because projects like this were approved  
2     without hesitation.

3                 I have no objection to the thoughtful  
4     approval process that has occurred today, but I've  
5     heard nothing in the debate that would interfere with  
6     its common sense conclusion. This pipeline should be  
7     allowed to proceed. Affordable, reliable energy is  
8     vital for economic growth.

9                 At the U.S. State Department, you have  
10    been charged since the time of Jefferson, with the  
11    responsibility of strengthening America's global  
12    position through diplomacy and strategic counsel. If  
13    you take that duty seriously, and I know you do, you  
14    have no other choice but to recommend approval of  
15    this pipeline.

16                I thank you for your time and  
17    consideration of what Oklahomans have to say about  
18    this critical project in this most critical time.  
19    Thank you.

20                         (Applause.)

21                 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Now I  
22    have no indications that there are any other local  
23



1 officials so I'm going to proceed now to #1. So #2.

2 Go ahead. Are you #2 sir?

3 SPEAKER: I'm actually #16 but I believe  
4 that the public officials had those numbers.

5 MS. COLEMAN: No, we put them ahead  
6 without numbers. So if there is a #2 here. No, #3.

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

8 MR. HAND: My name is George Hand. I'm  
9 General Manager of Canadian Valley and the Chief  
10 Executive Officer of the Electric Cooperative. I've  
11 served in this capacity for 26 years, beginning in  
12 February 1985. I've been involved with the  
13 management of electric co-operatives for 40 years,  
14 beginning in 1971. I was born in Eastern Oklahoma.

15 To date I've lived my entire life in  
16 Oklahoma and plan to continue my working career here  
17 and retire in Eastern Oklahoma.

18 My cooperative, Canadian Valley Electric  
19 serves more than 34,000 primarily rural residential  
20 customers in the 10 county areas located in East  
21 Central Oklahoma. This service area includes  
22 Seminole County, through which the proposed Keystone  
23

1 pipeline will pass.

2 Canadian Valley Electric will provide  
3 power and energy to one of the pumping stations along  
4 the pipeline. I'm here today to speak in support of  
5 the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project.

6 The project will pass through Eastern  
7 Seminole County with a large pump station located  
8 just outside of Cromwell, Oklahoma. I want to  
9 emphasize the importance of the short and long term  
10 this project will have on Seminole County and the  
11 people who live there.

12 The economy and population of Cromwell  
13 will have much improved -- Seminole County has  
14 declined greatly since the heydays of the oil boom  
15 last century.

16 Today, the economic base of the area is  
17 primarily ranching hand operation with the remnants  
18 of oil and gas. Some people drive as much as 200  
19 miles a day round trip to find jobs in Oklahoma City,  
20 Tulsa, and elsewhere to support their lifestyle and  
21 many do so on limited incomes.

22 These peoples are the members and

23

1 customers of Canadian Valley Electric. The economic  
2 boost to the areas from the jobs during construction  
3 and ongoing operation will be significant to the  
4 area.

5 Most of the schools in this area have been  
6 consolidated. The schools have remained struggling  
7 with declining tax base to boost the revenue  
8 necessary just to maintain their access. County  
9 government is likewise struggling.

10 Canadian Valley is a nonprofit  
11 distribution utility and as such operates on cost-  
12 base rates. The majority of our customers are rural  
13 residential. A utility operates has a variety of  
14 customers including those like Keystone. Large  
15 customers like Keystone improve the efficiency and  
16 utilization of the system.

17 The Keystone pipeline would be an economic  
18 boost to the area. We talked about jobs, but you  
19 know, there is something else. We talk about  
20 companies have been sitting on piles of cash,  
21 unwilling or afraid to invest. We have a company  
22 here, TransCanada, that is willing to invest their

1       dollars and risk their dollars in our nation's future  
2       economy. Let's support the, not stand in the way.

3               I've heard some are afraid of spills. No  
4       one can give 100% guarantee that no pipeline will  
5       spill. It's easier to have spilled oil than it is  
6       the blood we spill to keep our other sources safe.  
7       Thanks.

8               (Applause.)

9               MS. COLEMAN: #3 -- then you're #4. Now  
10       we're set, #4.

11              MR. RENFROW: Thank you. My name is Paul  
12       Renfrow. I am the Vice President of Public Affairs  
13       for OGE Energy Corp, which is the parent company of  
14       Oklahoma's largest electric utility company called  
15       OG&E here locally, and a natural gas pipeline company  
16       called Energex.

17              Our electric utilities as I mentioned is  
18       called OG&E and has a direct interest in the Keystone  
19       TransCanada project.

20              If approved, OG&E would be constructing  
21       approximately eight miles of 138 KV transmission line  
22       using steel structures. We will also be constructing

23

1 a new substation to serve the new 25 KW load

2 TransCanada has asked for in the Cushing, OK area.

3 We are using contractors for right of way  
4 acquisition and clearing of right of way as we speak.  
5 We currently have almost all the easements completed.

6 If the permit is approved, we plan to  
7 begin construction in January of 2012 and have our  
8 part completed in September 2012. The construction  
9 we utilize are our own OG&E workers, as well as  
10 contract construction workers.

11 In addition, this new electrical equipment  
12 alone, just on the OG&E project, will result in  
13 approximately \$70,000 and add valorem taxes primarily  
14 to the local schools. I can only imagine what the  
15 overall project would do for taxes.

16 You know, interestingly in the spring of  
17 this year, I made public comment before another  
18 federal agency, in that case it was the EPA and was  
19 on an issue called "Regional Haze," where briefly if  
20 the EPA moves forward with that, it's going to result  
21 in the company's largest rate increase in the  
22 company's 109-year history.

23

1           Then in September, our company again made  
2   public comment in a very similar setting in  
3   Woodridge, OK and Edmond, OK, and this time was  
4   before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and it had  
5   to do with a lesser Prairie Chicken and if the bird  
6   is listed, it could dramatically impact our ability  
7   to harness vast amounts of wind power the nation  
8   wants.

9           And now I'm making comments before the  
10   State Department. And I really do appreciate the  
11   opportunity to speak before you today and I  
12   appreciate you listening to us, but my message today  
13   is, please be a part of the solution and not a part  
14   of the problem.

15           We hear this nation desperately needs  
16   jobs, this project provides jobs and people question  
17   how long and how many, but no one question the fact  
18   that it will bring jobs. We hear concerns about the  
19   environment, we agree that protecting the environment  
20   is critical, but this state is criss-cross with  
21   pipelines and we've coexisted, the environment and  
22   pipelines for 100 years and we can do so going

23

1 forward.

2           Very lastly I'll say, if the environmental  
3 question surrounding this project is more about our  
4 nation's long-term reliance on fossil fuels, I urge  
5 our country to adopt a comprehensive energy policy  
6 that provides all of us with a road map rather than  
7 going project by project, agency by agency. So in  
8 the meantime though I urge the approval of this  
9 project. Thank you very much.

10           MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
11 comments. #5 please.

12           MR. WILLIAMS: Good evening, my name is  
13 Scott Williams. I am a commercial investment  
14 marketing manager for Western Farmers Electric  
15 Cooperative which is headquartered in Anadarko, OK.

16           Western Farmers is a generation  
17 transmission cooperative that provides essential  
18 electric service to 23 member distribution  
19 cooperatives throughout Oklahoma and New Mexico and  
20 also Altus Air Force Base.

21           WFEC owns and maintains over 3,600 miles  
22 of transmission line and operates five generating  
23

1 facilities and have a total power production of over  
2 1300 megawatts.

3 We've also been directed by our members to  
4 invest in renewable Oklahoma resources. By the end  
5 of 2012, the cooperative will be receiving over 15%  
6 of their kilowatt hours from wind, and that's not  
7 including the hydro.

8 Two of Western Farmers neighbor  
9 cooperatives, Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative,  
10 headquartered in Seminole, OK and Southeastern Lake  
11 Cooperative, headquartered in Durant, will be  
12 providing the electric power and energy directly to  
13 the TransCanada Keystone XL pumping stations.

14 We will be generating and transmitting the  
15 power to those cooperatives. Our employees will be  
16 building transmission and the substation needed to  
17 serve these loads. Western Farmers is here this  
18 evening to support these projects in Oklahoma.

19 There are several reasons why, but I'll go  
20 over two of them. Number one is for rate  
21 stabilization. The pump station electric loads which  
22 are real high load factor will help the overall

23



1     system perform more efficiently and by being more  
2     efficient, will benefit not only the co-op of  
3     southern load, but the whole system. In the end,  
4     what matters most is those people being served will  
5     have better residential rate.

6             After having the pleasure of working with  
7     the TransCanada personnel for the last two years, an  
8     important issue that comes to mind is ethics. I've  
9     been impressed with the level of professionalism and  
10    have never had any reason to question what has been  
11    promised.

12            TransCanada has always followed through  
13    and delivered whatever they promised, period.  
14    Western Farmers Cooperative and their 23 distribution  
15    co-ops, firmly support the efforts of TransCanada and  
16    the Keystone XL project in Oklahoma.

17            We believe the project is not only good  
18    for Oklahomans but America as a whole. Thank you.

19            (Applause.)

20            MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
21    comments. #6 please.

22            MR. MEYERS: My name is Chris Meyers. I'm

23

1     the Executive, Vice President, CEO of the Oklahoma  
2     Association of Electric Cooperatives. The spelling  
3     of my name is M-E-Y-E-R-S.

4             Our Association represents 28 electric  
5     distribution cooperative and two generation  
6     transmission cooperatives serving more than 500,000  
7     member owners in the state of Oklahoma.

8             You've already heard from two members of  
9     our Association, Canadian Valley Electric and Western  
10    Farmers. But on behalf of all 30, I am speaking in  
11    support of the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline.

12            We believe strongly that this project has  
13    benefits that far exceed its risks. It supports our  
14    national security interest, help secure and stabilize  
15    our energy future and provides thousands of much  
16    needed jobs.

17            This project will have a positive impact  
18    on our economy in a number of ways and particularly  
19    so in rural areas that Electric Cooperative serve.

20            The investment being proposed by  
21    TransCanada doesn't just create these many needed  
22    American jobs, it creates them in rural America where  
23

1 opportunities are often far and few between and where  
2 job creation is often the most difficult to achieve.

3 The economic impact in Seminole County as  
4 was mentioned earlier, will be repeated many times  
5 over along the route between Canada and the Gulf of  
6 Mexico.

7 The added tax base in rural areas will  
8 benefit financially strapped schools and help fund  
9 other state-supported services.

10 Many of the pipeline pump stations along  
11 this pipeline route through rural America will be  
12 served by rural electric cooperatives. Adding these  
13 high load factor loads improves the utilization of  
14 the existing facilities and reduces the average cost  
15 per kilowatt hour production.

16 In summary, Oklahoma Electric Cooperatives  
17 believe there has never been a more critical time in  
18 America to take control of our energy future and  
19 create jobs. We are in full support of the  
20 TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
23

1        comments. #7 please.

2                    MR. WARMINGTON: Thank you. Welcome to  
3        Oklahoma. I am Chad Warmington. I'm with the State  
4        Chamber of Oklahoma. Last name is W-A-R-M-I-N-G-T-O-  
5        N.

6                    State Chamber is the largest organization  
7        representing the business community in Oklahoma at  
8        our State capitol. Securing stable and affordable  
9        energy for North America and allies through projects  
10       such as the Keystone pipeline is in the national  
11       interest.

12                   Considering the economic and energy  
13       security benefits of these vital resources, we should  
14       continue to expand America's access to safe,  
15       affordable energy to help ensure improved domestic  
16       and global energy security and stable prices for  
17       consumers.

18                   Pipelines are the safest, most reliable,  
19       economical, and environmentally favorable way to  
20       transport oil and petroleum products as well as other  
21       energy liquids throughout the U.S.

22                   America depends on the more than 168,000

23

1 miles of liquid pipelines to move energy and raw  
2 material our country relies on. Additional pipeline  
3 capacity will help consumers and businesses  
4 throughout the United States. This  
5 project also stands to provide a powerful private,  
6 private sector economic stimulus. During  
7 construction Keystone XL will create more than 13,000  
8 jobs funded with private investment.

9 In addition, local governments will have a  
10 steady source of income from economic activity  
11 associated with the construction and from the  
12 property taxes the pipeline company will pay.

13 In Oklahoma, this involves the direct  
14 investment of \$845 million by TransCanada, more than  
15 \$1.2 billion in construction-related expenses, and  
16 tax revenue of \$25.3 million for state and local  
17 governments.

18 In addition, over the pipeline's 100-year  
19 lifespan, it will contribute more than \$668 million  
20 in property tax payments.

21 The State Chamber of Oklahoma supports all  
22 efforts to move this project forward. The energy

1 independence of America will be greatly enhanced with  
2 a final construction of this critical energy artery  
3 and further delay only continues to put our energy  
4 and our national security at risk.

5 We simply cannot allow our energy security  
6 to be jeopardized by failure to explore, develop,  
7 produce, and transport our oil and natural gas  
8 resources. We encourage you to approve this project  
9 as quickly as possible. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
12 Okay, now we want to turn to #8 and actually, again,  
13 if we could have #9 be ready to go. Thank you.

14 MR. BERNARD: Hello, my name is Mike  
15 Bernard. I am President of the Mid-Continent Oil and  
16 Gas Association of Oklahoma here in Oklahoma City.

17 Many don't think its possible for the  
18 United States to meet its energy needs solely using  
19 North American resources. We have been importing  
20 over 50% of our crude oil we consume for a long time.

21 But I'm here to tell you times are  
22 changing and they're changing rapidly. Innovative  
23

1     technology has made extraction of crude oil and  
2     natural gas possible from new finds all over North  
3     America.

4             It is possible for us to be free from  
5     buying energy from volatile regions of the world and  
6     from those whose interests would weaken America.

7             In 2008, Americans paid over \$136 billion  
8     to nations on the State Department travel warning  
9     list. That is \$136 billion to nations that harbor  
10    terrorists and their training camps.

11            We can end that outflow of money and keep  
12    it here at home. The completion of the Keystone XL  
13    pipeline is an important step towards that energy  
14    independence. It will enable the movement of energy  
15    from our friend, our good neighbor, our good ally,  
16    and our largest trading partner, Canada, to  
17    refineries in the United States, providing 700  
18    million barrels a day that otherwise would be  
19    purchased from nations not friendly to the United  
20    States.

21            Completion of the pipeline will bring with  
22    it increased economic activity, good jobs, and viable  
23

1 additional tax revenue, and we support its  
2 completion. Thank you very much.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
5 comments. #9 please.

6 MR. WARZEL: Thank you. My name is Jon W-  
7 A-R-Z-E-L, and I work with Devon Energy, but more so  
8 here tonight, I'm here as a U.S. citizen with regards  
9 to this project.

10 First and foremost, my role at Devon is to  
11 look at global supply and demand dynamics and one of  
12 the things I think that must be considered is, the  
13 world is not going to stop because we make this  
14 choice or not, in terms of its consumption of  
15 energy.

16 We as a country, and more so you as the  
17 U.S. Federal Government, have a choice to make. To  
18 me it boils down to one simple fact, you either make  
19 a choice and we secure our future or you leave it in  
20 the hands of others.

21 As we go through t his, you will hear  
22 undoubtedly statistics about job growth, economics,

23



1 we're not here to debate that. There are a lot of  
2 people that will know those numbers far better than I  
3 will, but the one thing that is for sure, if we don't  
4 do this project, we will be at the mercy of others.

5 In the last decade, the majority of our  
6 destruction and demand for oil has become because of  
7 high prices. If we do not do this, we will continue  
8 to be at the mercy. That is a choice that you have  
9 to make first and foremost for the citizens of this  
10 country. If you choose not to fit this in then we  
11 will face that for generations to come forward.

12 Secondly, we do have to do it in concert  
13 with our environmental and other economic, and you  
14 know, labor force considerations. It will take all  
15 sorts of energy, just not this one. It is not a  
16 single solution to our energy needs in this country,  
17 therefore you must give that broader concept and  
18 broader understand of how we move forward. But given  
19 if you don't make this choice, we will be behind the  
20 eight ball and we will not catch up. We are already  
21 behind, economically -- from an economic growth  
22 standpoint, education, all these things fund those  
23

1 programs that we rely on.

2 So as a U.S. citizen first and foremost  
3 before an employee of an energy company, I don't  
4 recommend, I ask you to approve this project. Thank  
5 you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
8 comments. #10 please.

9 MR. HULSEY: Good afternoon, my name is  
10 Blu H-U-L-S-E-Y. I'm here representing Continental  
11 Resources. We are an oil and gas company out of  
12 Enid, Oklahoma, soon to be out of Oklahoma City. We  
13 have about 500 employees here in Oklahoma and the  
14 country.

15 We are mainly in North Dakota, which is  
16 really why we are here today to talk to you about the  
17 North Dakota back end and what we estimate is 24  
18 billion barrels of recoverable oil in North Dakota.

19 It's a tremendous find of oil, of American  
20 oil, it is producing American jobs. We currently  
21 have 24 rigs running and what this pipeline will do  
22 is help us get t hat oil to market. Right now it's

23

1     being trucked and trained all across the U.S. and  
2     what we are urging is approval of the project to help  
3     get American oil to American refineries for American  
4     uses. So we appreciate your help and support. Thank  
5     you.

6                     (Applause.)

7                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
8     comments. #11 please.

9                     MR. LANDES: Hello, my name is Rodney L-A-  
10    N-D-E-S. I'm with Devon Energy. My role with Devon  
11    energy is the Manager of Crude Oil Marketing for the  
12    U.S., so in that role we have to ensure that we have  
13    the ability to move Devon's production to reliable  
14    markets, 100% of the time.

15                    We do a lot of analysis, looking at what  
16    Devon is doing throughout the U.S., what other  
17    companies are doing throughout the U.S.

18                    Since I've been in the industry, we've  
19    seen nothing but decline for onshore production in  
20    the U.S. Recently that trend has turned. With new  
21    technology, Devon and others are able to unlock  
22    resources that we did not have the ability to produce

23

1     before.

2                   Unfortunately, many of these resources are  
3     in areas where there is not a demand center or not  
4     sufficient demand to be able to handle all of that  
5     production.

6                   Devon and others will continue to drill  
7     and develop these areas, but we need markets for this  
8     oil.  Keystone XL is a project that has sufficient  
9     commitments and support from the industry.  If  
10    approved, it will be built and it will provide some  
11    of the access needed to continue developing these  
12    markets.

13                  For these reasons, I would urge you to  
14    approve this project.  Thank you.

15                  (Applause.)

16                  MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you very much for your  
17    comments.  #12 please.

18                  MR. JOLLY:  Thank you.  My name is Stewart  
19    Jolly.  I am the State Director of Americans for  
20    Prosperity -- J-O-L-L-Y.

21                  Americans for Prosperity, we have about  
22    23,000 members here in Oklahoma and about 1.8 million

23

1 nationwide, and we focus on limited government and  
2 lower taxes and to protect the free market, and we  
3 feel this is part of that.

4 I would like to say that with our  
5 unemployment at -- hovering around 9%, that is really  
6 a crying shame that we hear a lot about shovel-ready  
7 projects and we have a shovel-ready project here, and  
8 it's taking two and a half years to sign the document  
9 for this project, and I think that's a crying shame,  
10 to be honest with you, and I think it's hurt everyone  
11 in this room, the fact that we are not already  
12 digging and already bringing in that revenue now,  
13 with conditions the way they are.

14 Let's take a look at the facts real quick  
15 and the facts are that this is going to bring in  
16 about between 400 and 700 million barrels of oil a  
17 day. This would be well on its way to stop taking  
18 our oil from the Persian Gulf area.

19 And I'm a retired Lieutenant Colonel, so I  
20 spend a lot of time over there and I really didn't  
21 appreciate it very much because I don't think we had  
22 to do that. We could have used our own oil and our

1     own resources here in our own country.

2                   I would tell you this one more thing,  
3     experts agree that the free market is going to take  
4     over if we do not use this oil.  It's going to go  
5     somewhere.  And it's probably going to go to China or  
6     other foreign countries.

7                   So we're going to lose that revenue and  
8     those dollars, but to many of the environmentalists,  
9     facts don't matter and I think that's my point today,  
10    is that facts don't matter because the general  
11    opposition to this pipeline isn't about the pipeline  
12    at all.

13                  I think the general opposition is really  
14    about fossil fuel, whether we trucked it in or  
15    whether we put it on a boat, these guys are still  
16    going to oppose it, and I think we need to make that  
17    clear.

18                  So I think, really most of the opposition  
19    here is motivated by ideology and to be honest with  
20    you, this is not about ideology, this is about jobs.  
21    So please sign it.  Thank you.

22                   (Applause.)

23

1                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
2    comments. #14 please.

3                   MR. REID: Thank you very much. My name  
4    is Jack R-E-I-D. I'm representing the Laborers  
5    International Union of North America and on behalf of  
6    the 500,000 members of the laborers in the both the  
7    U.S. and Canada, I want to publicly state our support  
8    for this project.

9                   We talked about unemployment tonight. In  
10   the construction industry over the past three years,  
11   unemployment over 20%, and when you think about  
12   what's the best way to climb out of that bad economy  
13   and problems we're having with unemployment.

14                  We believe the answer is to begin the  
15   largest infrastructure project on the books in the  
16   United States today. This represents over \$7 billion  
17   in private investment, it creates 13,000 on-site  
18   construction jobs, direct construction jobs. And  
19   these, and what I want to really stress is that these  
20   are good jobs, these are family supporting jobs, that  
21   come with health insurance for your family and  
22   pensions for the hard working members who are out on

23

1 the job.

2 Too often this project has been debated as  
3 jobs or the environment. We really believe that this  
4 project represents jobs and the environment. With  
5 state of the art technology in terms of laying the  
6 pipe and also skilled craftsmen to put these things  
7 together, and what we're really asking today is to  
8 put Americans back to work. Thank you very much.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
11 #15 please.

12 MR. HAMMOND: My name is Reno Hammond,  
13 spell just like it sounds. I'm speaking on behalf of  
14 my membership, that Jack just talked about with the  
15 Laborers International Union of North America. Also  
16 I'm speaking to you as a Oklahoman, a father, a  
17 family man.

18 Today you say you are here to hear from  
19 the working people, the citizens that are in this  
20 room. Many of my members are obviously, which are in  
21 orange, did not take a number, to save time, and  
22 allow other people to just speak.

23



1                   I know the same thing is true of my  
2   brothers and sisters with the Pipeliners Union, the  
3   Teamsters, the Operators, and others, pipefitters. I  
4   know we have our people from the classrooms have  
5   traveled in today and I think if you would indulge me  
6   --

7                   (Applause.)

8                   If you would indulge me, I would like you  
9   to hear their voice. In a way that I know at least  
10  the members of the Union know how to do this. All in  
11  favor signify by saying "aye."

12                  (Chorus of "ayes.")

13                  MR. HAMMOND: Thank you.

14                  (Applause.)

15                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. #16 please.

16                  MR. PETTY: Hi, I'm Bobby Petty. That's  
17  B-O-B-B-Y P-E-T-T-Y and I'm with Veterans of Keystone  
18  XL.

19                  I want to speak for a few moments about a  
20  veteran. The first veteran, General George  
21  Washington and the sacrifices he made that few people  
22  know about that literally save this country in the  
23

1 Newberg conspiracy.

2 In 1783, only eight years after the very  
3 bloody war, the soldiers who fought without pay  
4 demanded Congress live up to their promises. They  
5 hadn't been paid in years because literally the  
6 federal government did not exist at that point and  
7 there was no way to get money from the states.

8 Some soldiers were so very angry that they  
9 thought and plotted to do the unthinkable. They are  
10 going to march to Philadelphia and kill every member  
11 of Congress.

12 George Washington heard about this plot  
13 and he went to Ft. Newberg and he wanted to speak  
14 with them himself, he was about the only one who  
15 could stop this. He walked in during a planning  
16 meeting and General Knox gave him the floor.

17 General Washington took out a letter that  
18 he had from Congress and read and said, gentlemen  
19 permit me to put on my spectacles for I have grown  
20 old and grey and almost blind in the service of my  
21 country.

22 He didn't read the letter because he knew  
23

1     it would inflame the men even more.   Instead he  
2     pleaded with his men, please, please don't do this.  
3     Please don't sacrifice and give up everything we  
4     fought so hard for so many years.   Don't replace a  
5     tyrant with a tyrant.

6             You have to understand, General Washington  
7     was seen and held in such high regard by his own men,  
8     that they would do anything for him.   He was  
9     literally the kind of person who rode on horse had  
10    two horses shot out from underneath him, who had  
11    bullet holes in his clothes with sword drawn and  
12    charging in for the enemy and still lived, almost an  
13    act of providence.

14            He could have been that day, the first  
15    king of America.   Instead, he sacrificed something  
16    intangible that day, the respect of his men.   He  
17    stopped that conspiracy and forever his men would see  
18    him as a traitor.   They would see him not as a  
19    soldier, but as one of them, a politician.

20            Fast forward to 2011 -- I have this  
21    message for President Obama.   I know a lot of  
22    different groups today are vying for your attention  
23

1 on Keystone. Please forget them. Please sacrifice  
2 politics on this and put the American people first.

3 When our economy rebound back, and it will  
4 12 to 24 months from now, our fix usage of 20 million  
5 barrels of oil will naturally rise and our gas  
6 prices, because the law of supply and demand will  
7 rise to \$5 to \$7 per gallon at the gas tank, our  
8 economy will immediately stumble and fall and we will  
9 not soon be in a triple dip recession.

10 This pipeline is part of the solution to  
11 help get us out of that, to help get us to a great  
12 economy and Mr. President, I please ask you to put  
13 politics above this.

14 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, I think you are out of  
15 time.

16 MR. PETTY: For the American people.  
17 Thank you.

18 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #17  
19 please.

20 MR. COE: Hello, I'm Asher Coe, that's C-  
21 O-E. I'm a Senior Marketing Major at Oklahoma State  
22 -- GO POKES!

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. COE: Also go give me a little bit of  
3 credibility, I was an intern at Chesapeake Energy, so  
4 I've got my feet wet a little bit with the oil and  
5 gas industry.

6 I am speaking because I am concerned about  
7 our nation as well as our State. I think everyone in  
8 here would agree that as a country we need to move  
9 towards providing a cleaner energy and a more  
10 efficient energy, but I think everyone also agree  
11 that that's not going to happen tomorrow.

12 With that said, we need to build this  
13 pipeline and we need to do it now, and I think a lot  
14 of people are scared that it's going to pollute, you  
15 know, the aquifers or there is going to be leaks and  
16 it's going to pollute people's land.

17 I kind of put it to an analogy that it's  
18 kind of like people are kind of scared to fly in  
19 airplanes when actually it's the most safest way to  
20 travel. You're more likely to get in a car wreck on  
21 the way home from this convention.

22 Also, I want to go into saying that the

23

1 largest American purchase in history happens every  
2 single day. Let me say that one more time -- the  
3 largest American purchase in history happens every  
4 single day, and that's with buying oil from foreign  
5 countries.

6 So why don't we buy our foreign oil from a  
7 friendly nation rather than supporting the Middle  
8 East.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. COE: Lastly, I think everyone hit it  
11 pretty hard, you know, it's going to provide jobs and  
12 stimulate the economy, especially for -- just not the  
13 nation but for Oklahoma and thank you for listening,  
14 appreciate it.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your input.  
17 #18 please.

18 MR. ANDERSON: Yes, ma'am, thank you. My  
19 name is Rick Anderson. I'm also a proud member of  
20 the Laborers International Union of North America.  
21 Thank you for letting me speak today.

22 I'm here to speak in favor of the pipeline  
23

1 project. For several reasons I feel the pipeline is  
2 a much safer alternative than railroad or by sea. I  
3 feel like we have the quality people that can do this  
4 job and do it safely and it can benefit all of our  
5 country.

6 In the past several days, we've heard the  
7 word "if" more than I can imagine that I can even  
8 remember. I've heard, if we allow this pipeline to  
9 come through it's going to be a disaster. If we  
10 allow the pipeline to come through, it's going to  
11 leak. If we allow this pipeline, everybody is going  
12 to die. I beg to differ.

13 I believe that if we don't let this  
14 pipeline come through it would be a disaster. I  
15 believe that if you don't look you're not going to  
16 see. If you don't listen you're not going to hear.  
17 If you don't let this pipeline come through it's  
18 going to destroy families and just be disastrous for  
19 the working people.

20 Also, if grandma had a beard she'd be  
21 grandpa. Thank you for your time.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: #19 please.

2 MR. ADAMS: Yes, my name is Josh A-D-A-M-  
3 S, with Laborers International Union of North  
4 America. In a time where thousands of people lose  
5 their jobs everyday, we need this pipeline. In a  
6 time where thousands of families loose their  
7 healthcare everyday, we need this pipeline. In a  
8 time where hundreds of families are losing their  
9 homes everyday, we need this pipeline.

10 The projected path of this pipeline runs  
11 like an artery through the heart of the country,  
12 currently on life support. Working men and women in  
13 this country won't see a green future if we don't  
14 take this opportunity presently. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #20  
17 please.

18 MR. WHITSITT: Hi, my name is Bill W-H-I-  
19 T-S-I-T-T. I am with Devon Energy and the first  
20 thing I'd like to do is have everybody in this room  
21 look to your right and left and look at this  
22 demonstration of democracy. This is just terrific.

23



1 Thank you for being here.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. WHITSITT: I'd like to just focus on  
4 two or three points. First and foremost to make the  
5 point that clearly the KXL pipeline is in the U.S.  
6 national interest. And I want to look at it for just  
7 a couple of minutes from Devon's perspective from  
8 another aspect.

9 What is little known, even here in  
10 Oklahoma City is, we are the only independent oil and  
11 gas company that actually produces oil sands oil in  
12 Canada. We do it not by the mines that some people  
13 referred to, but rather through the future of oil  
14 sands production, 80% of it in the future will be  
15 produced by what we call steam assisted gravity  
16 drainage.

17 It's drilling two horizontal wells,  
18 putting steam in the top one and pumping oil through  
19 the bottom one through these oil sands. And what it  
20 allows us to do is produce that oil, by the way with  
21 no use of fresh water. It's remarkable and less  
22 surface impact.

23

1           We know that this pipeline is absolutely  
2   crucial for an effective efficient market in the U.S.  
3   for this oil from our friendly neighbor, Canada.

4           I would also point out that the State  
5   Department, we urge the State Department to continue  
6   to encourage the promised early construction of the  
7   Cushing to the Gulf segment of this line that would  
8   make the Mid-Continent market much more efficient.

9           We also know that the Union folks know  
10   better than anybody, the jobs this project will  
11   create and also we do know -- madam chairman I didn't  
12   know I was that powerful a speaker.

13           (Applause.)

14           MR. WHITSITT:  Shall I continue.

15           MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you.

16           MR. WHITSITT:  I got one more minute here.

17   I just want to point out too that this pipeline is  
18   going to be efficient, it's going to be safe, and my  
19   friend Bobby here has a photo that people can look at  
20   of how they're going to use high-tech drilling  
21   actually to go 25, 50 or more feet below water tables  
22   for this line, unlike those that had to be trenched

23

1 through streams and rivers and that kind of thing.

2 So in conclusion, like my friends from  
3 labor in the lime green shirts, the white shirts, the  
4 orange shirts, and our students in the dark blue  
5 shirts, please find this pipeline in the U.S.  
6 national interest.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #21  
9 please.

10 MR. CURRY: I am president of the Oklahoma  
11 AFL-CIO. I represent 235 locals in this state and  
12 over 100,000 workers.

13 I bring one message to you from my  
14 employees and my workers, put us to work, we want the  
15 jobs.

16 I was born and raised in this State. It  
17 is criss-cross by pipelines. We are the only state  
18 with its capital surrounded with oil derricks. It  
19 goes very much part of our history. But what I would  
20 like to go on is the pipeliners that build the Alaska  
21 pipeline are going to build this one. Their training  
22 facilities and their office are in Tulsa, OK.

23

1                   I had personally witnessed and gone to  
2    their training facility. It is state of the art. It  
3    doesn't get any better. They are the best of the  
4    best can be on putting these pipelines together.

5                   What you saw earlier today was the State  
6    Chamber and now myself, business, labor, management,  
7    altogether saying give us the jobs, we want to go to  
8    work. It doesn't happen that often, but labor and  
9    management is in agreement on this.

10                  So I ask you on behalf of the 100,000+  
11   members I represent, please put us to work. Thank  
12   you.

13                  (Applause.)

14                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #22  
15   please.

16                  MR. EDEN: My name is Bill E-D-E-N. I'm  
17   an international representative of the United  
18   Association, the UA, of Plumbers and Pipefitters.

19                  The UA represents over 340,000 workers in  
20   the piping industry, including thousands of folks who  
21   live and work in Oklahoma. They're qualified and  
22   they're trained to install the pipelines. The UA

23

1 supports the Keystone XL pipeline, even though it  
2 will be built with both union and non-union labor.

3 The Keystone pipeline can transport oil  
4 not only from Canada, but from Montana, North Dakota  
5 and Oklahoma and the Gulf Coast. Without it, the oil  
6 will still be delivered but will be transported by  
7 truck and rail. That's expensive, inefficient, and  
8 dangerous.

9 The pipeline will take thousands of trucks  
10 off the road and help expand our own domestic oil  
11 production. Currently our gasoline dollars support  
12 oil imports from foreign dictators. Instead, we  
13 should produce our own oil and buy it from our ally,  
14 Canada, and ship it safely by pipeline, instead of  
15 enriching our enemies and clogging our highways and  
16 sea lanes, with unsafe tankers and trucks that will  
17 eventually cause massive spills.

18 Some say the Keystone pipeline will cause  
19 production by environmentally harmful methods.  
20 However, even without the pipeline, that oil will  
21 still be produced and shipped here on thousands of  
22 trucks.

23

1                   Shipping by truck is even more  
2   environmentally harmful. Without the pipeline, we  
3   buy oil from places like Nigeria, Venezuela, Saudi  
4   Arabia, without any environmental regulations.

5                   At least Canada has environmental laws to  
6   control their oil production. The Canadian oil  
7   fields have recently reduced their pollution by about  
8   40%. I doubt if we've ever seen the pollution  
9   reduced in the Nigerian, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia oil  
10  fields.

11                  The environmental impact study of the  
12  pipeline also concluded that the Canadian oil is  
13  similar to the oil that we currently ship in our  
14  pipelines. Contrary to some critics who claim it is  
15  especially toxic.

16                  The UA supports the development of energy  
17  sources that doesn't rely on oil. The development of  
18  our electrical supply with more solar, nuclear, and  
19  natural gas power plants would allow us to convert  
20  more cars to run on electricity rather than gasoline  
21  from oil, unless we adopt those resolutions, we will  
22  need oil for decades and the pipeline will help us

23

1       achieve t hat goal.

2                   The UA ask the State Department to support  
3       the Keystone project in receiving the presidential  
4       permit. Thank you.

5                   (Applause.)

6                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #23  
7       please.

8                   MR. DUBEA: Good afternoon. My name is  
9       Allen Dubea. I am the Vice President and General  
10      Manager of the Valero Ardmore Oklahoma refinery.

11                   Valero is the largest independent refinery  
12      of crude oil in North America and one of the largest  
13      manufacturers of renewable fuels.

14                   The Valero Ardmore Oklahoma refinery  
15      processes over 90,000 barrel a day of crude oil and  
16      directly employs over 300 people along with hundreds  
17      of additional contractors. We're committed to  
18      supplying premium quality clean fuels, safely,  
19      responsibly, and efficiently.

20                   The Keystone pipeline will help us reach  
21      this commitment and we firmly believe that the  
22      construction of the pipeline is in the best interest

23

1 of Oklahoma and our country.

2 We respectfully urge the State Department  
3 to grant the presidential permit that is required for  
4 the construction of this project.

5 By approving the construction of the  
6 pipeline, America will be importing crude oil from  
7 its largest trading partner and closest ally,  
8 therefore strengthening both national security and  
9 energy security.

10 An increase in the oil flow from Canada  
11 reduces American dependence on oil from imports of  
12 unreliable sources.

13 Some estimate that the Keystone Gulf Coast  
14 expansion project is permitted and completed, it will  
15 supply roughly half the amount of oil that the U.S.  
16 currently imports from the Middle East and Venezuela.

17 Approval of the pipeline also means that  
18 Valero will be able to better serve American  
19 consumers by providing reliable and economic fuels  
20 and petrochemicals. We'll be doing so with our  
21 commitment to the environment in the forefront.

22 As your thorough analysis of the project's  
23



1 environmental impact properly concluded, there are no  
2 substantial environmental concerns that should  
3 prohibit this project from moving forward.

4 Keystone will be constructed using  
5 industry best practices and will meet or exceed all  
6 existing pipeline regulatory standards.

7 The Keystone pipeline will also bolster a  
8 crucial sector of the nation's manufacturing  
9 industry, jobs are most important especially in times  
10 like these. With the pipeline expected to create  
11 nearly 20,000 high wage manufacturing and  
12 construction jobs.

13 Our country cannot afford to reject this  
14 incredible job growth. Keystone will be supporting  
15 American workers who produce the oil, as well as the  
16 worker who, like our company, we refine it.

17 With this perspective job growth comes  
18 great news for the U.S. economy. States along the  
19 pipeline route, including Oklahoma, are expected to  
20 receive an additional \$5.2 billion in property taxes  
21 during the life of the pipeline.

22 An independent study also estimates that  
23

1 the Keystone pipeline will bring in more than \$20  
2 billion in new spending to the U.S. economy.

3 Approval and construction of the pipeline  
4 is in the best interest of the Americans and we  
5 respectfully request that the Department of State  
6 expeditiously approve the project and grant  
7 TransCanada the presidential permit necessary to  
8 begin building the pipeline.

9 Thank you for your time and consideration.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, thank you. Could we  
12 ask you to spell your last name?

13 MR. DUBEA: D-U-B-E-A.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #24  
16 please.

17 MR. SMITH: Hi, I'm Lance S-M-I-T-H. I'm  
18 with the Laborers International Union of North  
19 America, but I'm also a Oklahoma native, born and  
20 raised. I currently have a ranch and always have, in  
21 Eastern Oklahoma, just east of Tulsa and so a lot of  
22 the beef that people eat in this room are beef that  
23

1     maybe we produce. So I have a high expectancy for  
2     our environment to stay clean. We need it, I need  
3     it.

4             My family makes our living not only from  
5     construction, but also from the beef industry,  
6     vegetable industry. So we live -- my family and I  
7     live an avid outdoor lifestyle and we're sportsmen,  
8     hunters, fishermen. I love the environment. If I'm  
9     not working, I'm in the woods, I'm on the water. I  
10    enjoy this country, this state, and I want it to stay  
11    clean.

12            But we need jobs. We are out of work.  
13    We're the highest skilled, best construction force in  
14    the world and we're standing here united with  
15    management of corporations ready to build this  
16    pipeline that this country and this state drastically  
17    need. And we appreciate you coming to our state,  
18    hope you enjoy it and thank you for your  
19    consideration.

20            (Applause.)

21            MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #25  
22    please.

23

1                   MR. COMBS: D.J. C-O-M-B-S. I'm here  
2   representing Laborers International Union of North  
3   America and first of all I want to tell everybody,  
4   JOBS, JOBS, JOBS. That's what we need here.

5                   Secondly, I've got a few things that's  
6   been on my mind. I hear about all this toxic stuff  
7   running through the pipeline. That's bitumen. First  
8   of all it's been in the pipeline, been used in  
9   pipelines with oil for years.

10                  This stuff is in our roads, our concrete,  
11   asphalts, roofing materials. It's nothing different  
12   than what they've used for years and years and years.  
13   So let's put that out of the way.

14                  Secondly, let's look at it this way,  
15   everybody worries about the pipelines running across  
16   the aquifers, what about the pipeline that's already  
17   there? There are pipelines running past them,  
18   through them, around them. There is safe ways of  
19   doing this and we need to do this for our jobs.

20                  Environment, we want to support a clean  
21   environment for our children and their children and  
22   their children, and our future. We're worried about  
23

1 all the birds and everything just like everybody  
2 else, but what about the most important species?  
3 What about the humans?

4 (Applause.)

5 Thank you guys. Let's do this pipeline.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your views.

8 #26 please.

9 MR. NUTAUT: I'm with the Laborers  
10 International Union of North America and we represent  
11 over 500,000 men and women in the United States and  
12 Canada and we all approve this pipeline. So please  
13 do not let this money, as well as the opportunity go  
14 overseas. We appreciate your time.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Spell your last name sir.

17 MR. NUTAUT: N-U-T-A-U-T.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #27  
20 please.

21 MR. SHED: Yes, my name is Lee S-H-E-D and  
22 I'm also with the Laborers International Union of  
23

1 North America. First of all, let me say thanks to  
2 all the people who was here at 6:30 this morning.

3 (Applause.)

4 All my brothers and sisters, thank you  
5 guys for getting up this morning, okay. Most of you  
6 probably don't realize how cold it was outside this  
7 morning, but that's what laborers do. We get here  
8 early, we work hard, and we stay late.

9 (Applause.)

10 Those are the kind of people that will be  
11 building this pipeline.

12 (Applause.)

13 We don't leave until we get the job done.  
14 I'm going to let you guys know I'm proud to be a  
15 laborer. Peace and a long life.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
18 comments. #28 please.

19 MR. SPEEGLE: Gary S-P-E-E-G-L-E. I'm a  
20 proud member of the Laborers International Union of  
21 North America and a native Oklahoman.

22 You heard people talk about jobs, but jobs

23

1     is what we need. But as you see these young men and  
2     women to my right in the blue, what are they going to  
3     do in the near future? This is their state, this is  
4     their job in the future. Please push this permit  
5     through. Everybody need jobs in the state of  
6     Oklahoma, thank you.

7                     (Applause.)

8                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #29  
9     please.

10                    MR. DICKENS: Jimmie D-I-C-K-E-N-S. I'm  
11     here with Laborers International Union of North  
12     America, Midwest Region. I had a lot of stuff here  
13     written down, but I'll just be repeating a lot of  
14     stuff so we can go on home, but our friends on the  
15     other side was talking the other night about all  
16     those cancer we have in oil refineries.

17                    Well my mother and brother and a nephew  
18     live in an area where there are no refineries at all  
19     and they have cancer. So the refineries I don't  
20     think has anything to do with it.

21                    Then they talk about the water and the  
22     population of this country is where the water is

23

1     going. And also they talk about green energy. West  
2     Texas has got a large windmill farm but the Sierra  
3     Club has gotten it shut down because they won't let  
4     them lay the grid into it on account of the  
5     butterflies.

6                 So the windmills are just sitting there  
7     idle and that needs to be considered. But on this  
8     job here, if you all would, please get the signatures  
9     on it so we can go back to work and feed our families  
10    and enjoy similar lives. Thank you.

11                (Applause.)

12                MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #30  
13    please.

14                MR. SHUCK: My name is Clark S-H-U-C-K and  
15    I'm here to support the pipeline and also I'm a  
16    single parent and as for jobs in the future, I would  
17    rather worry about raising my kids and the right  
18    things to do with them, than rather have to worry  
19    about my job and the future for my kids and their  
20    jobs.

21                So I'm going to support this to lay down  
22    for the future for the kids. Thanks

23



1 (Applause.)

2 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #31  
3 please.

4 MR. HENDRICKS: Hi, my name is Jeremy H-E-  
5 N-D-R-I-C-K-S. And I want to thank you for allowing  
6 us the chance to come here and support the Keystone  
7 XL today.

8 I'd like to dispel a couple of myths that  
9 have been going on. One of those is, a lot of  
10 articles, if you read them, always pit this as a  
11 classic battle between environmentalists versus  
12 business and labor. That's simply not the case.

13 These men and women here from all these  
14 different unions are also environmentalists. They're  
15 the ones that build the wind farm and the solar that  
16 you love so much, and we also care about the  
17 environment. But we have to have jobs and we have to  
18 support America.

19 It's simply put, that they try to say that  
20 health and safety is of a great concern with the  
21 Keystone XL. Health and safety is the #1 concern for  
22 both the public and our members of these labor

23

1 unions. We absolutely would not be in support of  
2 this if it wasn't supremely guaranteed that the  
3 health and safety of our members and the public had  
4 been guarded.

5 TransCanada has gone above and beyond to  
6 make this the safest pipeline that would ever be  
7 built in the North America. And so we must get  
8 behind it. We've all heard about the jobs, we've all  
9 heard about national security, and in a time when  
10 Americans are struggling to feed, cloth, house, and  
11 provide healthcare for their families, we simply  
12 can't stand idly by and let this opportunity pass.

13 So please support the Keystone XL and  
14 sign. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #32  
17 please.

18 MR. GREENING: Hello, I'm Greg Greening.  
19 I'm from Laborers International Union of North  
20 America.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Spell your name please,  
23

1     thank you.

2                   MR. GREENING:  G-R-E-E-N-I-N-G.  I'm proud  
3     to be here in support of this pipeline project.  It's  
4     going to be a big thing for a lot of families that  
5     need help right now, that need jobs, that need good  
6     paying jobs.  All I hear on the news is that we need  
7     jobs.  Republicans are saying it, Democrats are  
8     saying it.

9                   So we need good jobs for Americans by  
10    Americans and that's we want to do, we want to build  
11    this pipeline for Americans so we don't have to  
12    depend on that foreign oil.  Thank you very much.

13                   (Applause.)

14                   MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you very much.  #33  
15    please, 33, 34.

16                   MR. GOETZ:  Thank you for giving us the  
17    opportunity to be here.  My name is Mike G-O-E-T-Z  
18    and I'm a proud member of the Laborers International  
19    Union of North America and a very proud supporter of  
20    the Keystone XL project.

21                   I think we have a real opportunity here.  
22    We don't have to sit back and wait for the Congress

23

1 to act on the president's jobs plan, we can enact our  
2 own jobs plan by permitting this pipeline to go  
3 through.

4 We have the \$7 billion stimulus plan right  
5 at our fingertips ready to go to create jobs right  
6 through the heart of the country.

7 Some of these jobs have been referred to  
8 as low wage dirty jobs. These are great jobs, they  
9 pay great wages, they provide health insurance and  
10 pensions to the workers that work in them and they  
11 are the most highly trained, the most sophisticated  
12 pipeline builders in the world.

13 Second reason I think we need t his  
14 project is, we need the oil and I would rather not  
15 say that. I would rather that we didn't need the  
16 oil, but we do and it's great that we're talking  
17 about, you know, the environmentalists talk about a  
18 green economy and wind farms and we build wind farms  
19 and we're all favor of solar panels and we're all in  
20 favor of energy efficiency, but our system an dour  
21 energy dependency on oil is just not there yet. We  
22 still need this oil coming into the country and it's  
23

1     better to get it from a reliable partner like Canada  
2     rather than from regimes that want to destroy us.

3                 The third thing that I would like to  
4     mention is that we need -- local governments need the  
5     revenues that's going to be spin off of this in the  
6     form of property taxes. We read everyday about  
7     policemen and firefighters and teachers being laid  
8     off, and the need for infrastructure at the local  
9     community level for roads and bridges and those kinds  
10    of things.

11                This pipeline will provide a revenue  
12    stream to provide local governments with the money  
13    that they need and you, the State Department has  
14    conducted one of the most extensive environmental  
15    impact statement ever conducted, thoroughly vetted,  
16    thoroughly reviewed, and it gave no reason for the  
17    project not to succeed.

18                And we have the best technology in the  
19    world to deal with environmental issues that come up,  
20    if there are problems in the operation of the  
21    pipeline.

22                So I thank you. We urge that you declare

23

1       this project of national significance and permit it  
2       to go forward. Thank you.

3                       (Applause.)

4                       MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #35  
5       please.

6                       MR. GIPSUN: Hello today. Thank you for  
7       putting this hearing on. My name is Nate Gipsun and  
8       I think you can tell who I'm with by my shirt. I'm  
9       with the Laborers International and there is a few  
10      things that I kind of wanted to talk about.

11                      Everybody knows the jobs that this is  
12      going to create for our entire country, everybody  
13      else knows the \$5 billion worth of revenue that this  
14      is going to bring to help with the roadwork and  
15      create more jobs in the hospitals with nurses and  
16      more jobs in the schools and infrastructure that's  
17      going to come from that \$5 billion over the lifetime  
18      of the pipeline.

19                      I kind of wanted to touch on the United  
20      States daily demand of crude oil. As a country,  
21      every day we as a country consume 19 million barrels  
22      of crude oil. We produce 5.5 million barrels as a

23

1 country. We import 5.4 million barrels, 2.8 from  
2 Canada and 2.6 from Mexico. We rely on OPEC for 9  
3 million barrels a day. One of the largest  
4 contributors of OPEC is Saudi Arabia.

5 Saudi Arabia gives us 5 million barrels a  
6 day. I think everybody here knows what we're dealing  
7 with Saudi Arabia and countries like Iran Venezuela.  
8 These countries are not our friends. These are the  
9 type of countries that they really are brutal.

10 Last week there was a woman who was caught  
11 driving in Saudi Arabia and women aren't supposed to  
12 drive in Saudi Arabia, so this week she received 10  
13 lashes.

14 I don't want to give our money to Saudi  
15 Arabia or Iran or Venezuela. I want to give our  
16 money to our friend, our ally, Canada, and to me this  
17 is a great opportunity for us to wean ourselves off  
18 of our dependence on the oil that we are getting from  
19 OPEC and now is the time, now is the time I really  
20 appreciate the past 20 months that everybody has  
21 taken to get everything in place, but now is the  
22 time, let's get er done.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
3 #36 please.

4 MR. REED: Good evening and welcome to  
5 Oklahoma City. My name is H.J. R-E-E-D. I'm with  
6 Conoco Philips. Before I begin, I want to thank my  
7 folks. A lot of times folks aren't real sure when  
8 big business and labor gets together so I want to  
9 thank some of the orange and blue shirt folks for  
10 giving me their opportunity to come and speak with  
11 you.

12 (Applause.)

13 I'd also like to thank these young men and  
14 young women who came from Oklahoma State University.

15 (Applause.)

16 I don't think -- when my hair was dark and  
17 I was much younger, this would not have been the way  
18 I would have spent my Friday night.

19 I'd like to give you a few prepared  
20 remarks that this project is an investment. It's an  
21 investment in America. The positive economic impact  
22 of the Keystone pipeline system is very clear.

23



1     You've heard it many, many times. It creates jobs.  
2     It injects private sector spinning in the economy and  
3     it generates the needed tax revenues.

4             Sound investments of this size don't come  
5     along every day, let alone when our country is  
6     recovering from the worse economic recession since  
7     WWII remains fragile.

8             I deeply share the President's desire to  
9     provide opportunities to put people back to work and  
10    without question, the Keystone XL project contributes  
11    to that goal.

12            Conoco Phillips supports the Keystone XL  
13    project for two reasons. One, we have significant  
14    holdings in Alberta Oil Sand Resource Base. I  
15    personally have been there and we would like to bring  
16    those to U.S. markets. You heard Mr. Whitsitt talk  
17    about the sag-D methodology. It's the same  
18    methodology that we use.

19            Secondly, we have several refineries.  
20    From the Mid-Continent to the Gulf Coast, that could  
21    purchase crude oil, transport it on this pipeline and  
22    convert it into important products to meet our energy  
23

1 needs.

2 In the refining industry, long terms  
3 competitiveness requires access to the most  
4 economically sources of crude oil and we must ensure  
5 that our refineries do not become underutilized as  
6 crude oil from some sources diminish as we've seen  
7 over time.

8 The Keystone XL pipeline opens new markets  
9 for crude oil produced both in Canada and you heard  
10 Blue talk about the produce that's being produced up  
11 in Montana that comes on this line and provides new  
12 supplies for the Gulf Coast and other inland  
13 refineries along its routes.

14 It's for this reason that I urge the State  
15 Department to find this significant infrastructure  
16 project to be in our national interest and I  
17 respectfully request that the President approve the  
18 cross border permit for the Keystone XL pipeline, God  
19 bless.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #37  
22 please.

23

1 MS. SINGLETON: Good evening everyone. My  
2 name is Callena S-I-N-G-L-E-T-O-N and I'm with the  
3 Laborers Union. I am from Galveston, TX. I've been  
4 to all three sites this week. I put everything on  
5 hold at home to be here in Port Author and Austin.

6 (Applause.)

7 And I came to support the Keystone  
8 pipeline. From future jobs that we need yesterday.  
9 And so we can have a better future for myself, my  
10 kids, my grandkids and everybody else's families.  
11 Cause it's really been a struggle. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #38  
14 please.

15 MR. PATTERSON: Yes, ma'am, my name is  
16 Matthew P-A-T-T-E-R-S-O-N and I'm a proud member of  
17 the Laborers International Union of North America.  
18 I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to speak  
19 this afternoon and also like to thank a lot of  
20 horsemen here today for their efforts, taking care of  
21 everyone.

22 Earlier this week Federal Reserve Chairman  
23

1 Ben Bernanke said the unemployment and job situation  
2 we have is a national crisis. This project is a  
3 great way to create jobs and get our economy moving  
4 again.

5 I support the Keystone pipeline and urge  
6 the White House to get this project going. Thank  
7 you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #39  
10 please.

11 MS. SINGLETON: Yes, my name is Phyllis  
12 Singleton. My sister spoke previously. I'm all for  
13 everything she said. We've from Local 154 in  
14 Houston, TX and we live in Galveston County and we're  
15 in support of the pipeline, which is the lifeline for  
16 all of us here, so please if the President will  
17 approve it, and I also think that everyone should  
18 support President Obama with all of his decisions  
19 that he make both now and in the near future. Thank  
20 you

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #40

23

1     please.

2                   MR. FELMY:  My name is John Felmy.  I'm a  
3     Chief Economist for the American Petroleum Institute  
4     in Washing, DC, the nation's leading trade  
5     association in representing oil and gas industry.

6                   But more importantly, I'm from a pipeline  
7     family.  My father was a pipeliner and he worked as  
8     an operating engineer and a laborer for many, many  
9     years.

10                  (Applause.)

11                  Both he and my brother worked in the  
12     Alaska line and yes, yours truly, I worked on a  
13     pipeline in Pennsylvania as a kid.  So we know the  
14     importance of pipeline jobs for families and  
15     communities.

16                  It has been three years that TransCanada  
17     filed its permit with the State Department for  
18     approval of the Keystone XL pipeline project.  Well  
19     that is much longer than the normal review process,  
20     the most recent environmental assessment found no  
21     issues of significance that would justify blocking  
22     the project from moving forward.

23

1           We are now hoping for a favorable result  
2   from the Department's national interest  
3   determination. The pipeline needs to be approved.  
4   As we've consistently highlighted the pipeline and  
5   the broader utilization of Canada's oil sands will  
6   create U.S. jobs, grow our economy and strengthen our  
7   energy security.

8           As the President speaks every day of the  
9   need for job creation, this project is more critical  
10  than ever. 13,000 people will be hired to construct  
11  the pipeline with another 7,000 manufacturing the  
12  equipment parts, including the pipe itself.

13          These are good paying jobs in  
14  transportation, manufacturing and construction, and  
15  they include many of the types of shovel-ready jobs  
16  the administration has been talking about and the  
17  companies involved want to get started right away.

18          Hiring will also begin almost as soon as  
19  approval is granted. We understand the approval  
20  process needs to run its course but we strongly urge  
21  the administration to stick to its commitment to make  
22  a final decision no later than year's end.

23

1           The decision to approve the project should  
2   be easy. Building and operating this pipeline will  
3   bring obvious benefits to Americans that starts with  
4   jobs and goes far beyond the 20,000 jobs building a  
5   pipeline.

6           According to the Canadian Energy Research  
7   Institution rising investment in Canadian oil sands  
8   development could create more than 500,000 new jobs  
9   in the U.S. Nearly 2,400 American companies from 49  
10   states already support the development of Canada's  
11   oil sands.

12           The same shows that the development of  
13   Canada's oil sands would also contribute \$775 billion  
14   to U.S. GDP. Canada is our largest trading partner.  
15   The fact is, for every \$ the U.S. spends in Canadian  
16   products, Canadians return up to 90 cents through  
17   purchases of U.S. goods and services.

18           Our economies are closely intertwined.  
19   What provides growth and benefits in one is slightly  
20   positively felt in the other.

21           Extracting our existing energy partnership  
22   with Canada will also enhance the security of our

1 energy needs. With the pipeline our crude imports  
2 from Canada could reach 4 million barrels a day by  
3 2020, or twice what we currently import from the  
4 Persian Gulf.

5 By 2030, Canada could supply 5 million  
6 barrels of oil per day, 1 in every 4 barrels America  
7 consumes. The pipeline will provide another outlet  
8 for increasing domestic production in the upper  
9 Midwest to reach refineries. This contributes to a  
10 larger more dynamic pipeline system that will benefit  
11 consumers. Such a system would respond better to the  
12 shifts and supply and demand.

13 MS. COLEMAN: Sir.

14 MR. FELMEY: Thank you very much.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: I appreciate it, thank you.

17 #41 please.

18 MS. FERGUSON: Okay, my name is Janice  
19 Ferguson. I'm also from Galveston County, Labor  
20 Union Local 154 and I traveled with the Singleton,  
21 both of the sisters, we all came together and we all  
22 work at the nuclear plants over 10 years or more, so

23



1 I understand that some of us have problems with the  
2 pipeline.

3 But I stepped out in faith and I believe  
4 that we will make it and this will be a good thing  
5 for us because we do need the jobs.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #42  
8 please.

9 MR. POINTER: Good evening. My name is  
10 Mark Pointer and I'm a proud member of the Laborers  
11 International Union Midwest Region.

12 I want to first thank the State Department  
13 for this opportunity to offer comments on this very  
14 important matter. I rise in support that the  
15 Keystone XL project. I believe that this project is  
16 vital to our national interest. Based on the fact  
17 that it will reduce our dependence on unfriendly  
18 suppliers around this world. Our  
19 interest is served by having as many options to these  
20 resources as possible. To avoid disturbances of that  
21 production, caused by embargoes and/or political  
22 climates or changes.

23

1                   This pipeline offers the country a  
2   privately financed infrastructure project that will  
3   have good paying jobs for hard working men and women.

4                   At this time when our economy seems to be  
5   stumbling, this project will be a real boost and put  
6   Americans back to work. I have heard and read that  
7   these jobs will be temporary and somehow that should  
8   weigh into this decision. I reject that notion and  
9   offer the question, were builders of the Brooklyn  
10  bridge, the Hoover Dam, the Panama Canal, and for  
11  that matter, the Alaska pipeline, were they devalued  
12  because when the project was complete they had to  
13  move to other work?

14                  Working people go to construction work  
15  every day wherever that work is and they will  
16  continue to do so. We need these jobs now.

17                  (Applause.)

18                  The health of this nation relies on work.  
19  It is an American value. Please, this is in our  
20  national interest, and expedite your deliberations.  
21  Thank you.

22                  (Applause.)

23

1                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #43  
2     please.

3                   MR. NAVILLE: Hello, my name is Jeff  
4     Naville and I'm a member of the Laborers  
5     International Union and I want to commend the  
6     Department of State for the manner in which these  
7     hearings have been conducted and the attention and  
8     interest that you two individuals have shown to  
9     everyone who has spoken.

10                  I for one am thankful to be able to  
11     participate in the activities of government along  
12     with all those who are here today.

13                  As you know, the Laborers International  
14     Union, as well as other trades and all workers in  
15     general are finding it extremely difficult to locate  
16     opportunities to work.

17                  The Keystone XL pipeline will allow many  
18     workers the opportunity to once again be gainfully  
19     employed and provide insurance, food, shelter and  
20     clothing for themselves and their families.

21                  Also the Keystone XL pipeline will put  
22     into our refineries oil that is not tied to people  
23

1     who seem to do violence to our nation.

2                 Many will stand here today and agree that  
3     jobs are desperately needed, jobs this project will  
4     provide. Some of those people understand that if you  
5     get up early and put your shoulders to the wheel,  
6     good things happen.

7                 Those opposed to the project have said  
8     that the jobs it creates are temporary. Tell that to  
9     the 50 and 60 year members of the Laborers  
10    International Union that have attended these  
11    hearings, the workers who will be employed on the  
12    pipeline, build our infrastructure.

13                They are the best in the world, they care  
14    about our environment, they work safely, they demand  
15    to do a job, they don't cut corners, and I can no  
16    longer stand by while my brothers and sisters told  
17    the work that they do is somehow now valuable.  
18    It does have value. This pipeline and the people who  
19    build it will make our nation stronger, more  
20    productive and safer. Eventually these workers will  
21    be called on to build the hydroelectric power plants,  
22    wind farms and other energy generating sources and  
23

1 from past experiences, we know those who are opposed  
2 to this pipeline and say we should explore other  
3 options, will also show up in opposition to those  
4 projects.

5 I respect their concern for our  
6 environment but our nation needs to build things like  
7 this pipeline and to continue to move towards other  
8 source of energy. It is in our nation's best  
9 interest that the presidential permit be issued for  
10 the Keystone XL pipeline. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #44  
13 please.

14 MR. HARRIS: Yes, I am Randy Harris and  
15 I'm with the Laborers International Union of North  
16 America.

17 I'm not going to stand here and talk  
18 about, or even suggest to you or talk about the jobs  
19 that we all agree that the thousands of jobs this  
20 will. What I'm here to ask you to do is put us --  
21 give us an opportunity to go back to work because the  
22 brothers and sisters in this room understand the

23

1 difference between a job and the opportunity to go to  
2 work every day. There is a difference and they can  
3 tell you about it.

4 We are the most highly trained, highly  
5 skilled, and highly productive workers in the  
6 industry. All we want is an opportunity to go to  
7 work every day because these are tough jobs and they  
8 require a work ethic and the ability to go and put a  
9 lot of time in.

10 Give us the chance to put our members back  
11 to work, our families back to work and our country  
12 back to work. Please approve the pipeline. Thank  
13 you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #45  
16 please.

17 MR. HOWARD: Hi, I'm Matt Howard with the  
18 Laborers International Union. I'm here to support  
19 the Keystone pipeline. I believe it is in the best  
20 interest of the country. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #46

23

1     please.

2                   MR. STOTT:  Hi, my name is Sean Stott.

3     I'm also with the Laborers International Union.  I  
4     know that one of the things that the State Department  
5     and the Obama administration is going to be  
6     considering when they consider this project, is  
7     whether it is in the economic interest of the State.

8                   I hope that when the State Department and  
9     the President's administration are considering this  
10    project, that they think about the economy in the  
11    greater sense and why this country is in the state it  
12    is in right now.  It's because there is a lack of  
13    confidence.  Lack of confidence on the part of  
14    businesses, a lack of confidence on the part of  
15    consumers, the workers who buy things with the  
16    paychecks that they use from the jobs and the work  
17    that they perform.

18                  Businesses lack the confidence that there  
19    is going to be enough demand for their products so  
20    they do not go forward and build onto their existing  
21    facilities.  They do not go forward and buy new  
22    equipment.  They don't hire more people.  They lack

23

1 the confidence to do that.

2 As a result, the workers in this country  
3 lack the confidence that they're going to have a job  
4 in a week or a month. They lack the confidence that  
5 if they are working that they're going to be able to  
6 get a job whether it's today or next week or next  
7 month, so they put off purchases. They don't go out  
8 and buy a new truck, they don't go out and buy a new  
9 refrigerator or perhaps they don't buy as many  
10 clothes for their kids, they don't go out and buy  
11 dinner for their family, instead they cook at home.

12 Here, we have a project where a company is  
13 willing to invest \$7 billion into this country. They  
14 have the confidence to do that. I think the Obama  
15 administration and the Secretary of State, should  
16 appreciate that and recognize that and approve this  
17 project as soon as possible. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #47  
20 please.

21 MR. CHOATE: Yes, first of all thank you.  
22 My name is Carl, last name is spelled Choate and I

23



1     just want to come up here and say I support the  
2     pipeline. I believe that we as American people, we  
3     need this job, we need to be able to come more  
4     independent. I believe we should keep it here versus  
5     getting our oil elsewheres and really that's all I  
6     have. I just want to say I'm supporting it. Thank  
7     you very much.

8                     (Applause.)

9                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you so much. #48  
10    please.         MR. LORTON: Hello, my name is Clint  
11    Lorton and I just like to say I'm in favor of this  
12    pipeline. I think it's going to be good for the  
13    country, it's going to be good for our workers and  
14    I'd much rather give a friend of mine a dollar, than  
15    an enemy to use it against me. Thank you.

16                    (Applause.)

17                    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #49  
18    please.

19                    MR. VINCENT: Good evening. My name is  
20    Howard Vincent. I'm a native Oklahoman and I'm very  
21    proud of Oklahoma. I just want to know did everybody  
22    read the Daily Oklahoma newspaper this morning? Did  
23

1     you realize that Oklahoma City is the highest  
2     employed metropolitan area in America? As of right  
3     now?

4                 We have 95% employment in the Oklahoma  
5     City metropolitan area and I'm really proud of that.

6                 (Applause.)

7                 I do support the Keystone pipeline but I  
8     want to talk to you about an alternative that I've  
9     been thinking about. I moved to Shawnee, OK in  
10    October of 1968. I'm currently 73 years old and  
11    retired and live here in Oklahoma City. But I  
12    witnessed the demise of the oil refinery business in  
13    this great state. Mr. Warren relocated Skelly Oil  
14    out of Tulsa and Houston.

15                Kerr McGee Oil relocated to Houston. Dick  
16    Chaney was President of Halliburton and he moved  
17    Halliburton into Texas and you saw what happened to  
18    Duncan, OK after Halliburton left.

19                Conoco moved to Houston, Phillips moved to  
20    Houston and Ponka City and Boswell are suffering.  
21    Let's take just a few minutes and talk about Cushing,  
22    OK. It's been mentioned several times today.

23

1           You know it's the oil pipeline crossroads  
2   of America. When I moved to Shawnee in 1968, Cushing  
3   had 5 refineries, 5 refineries. Today they have  
4   zero. But Fina, APCO, Gobble, Hudson and Deeprock,  
5   were all purchased by big oil and moved to the  
6   Houston area.

7           A Texan was in the White House at that  
8   time and the oil greed in Houston was quite powerful.  
9   I submit to you that the Keystone is just another  
10  effort by the oil giants to monopolize domestic oil  
11  in lieu of losing foreign imports from the Middle  
12  East.

13          What is the best alternative? Let's think  
14  about building these state of the art refineries in  
15  Cushing, OK. We have a perpetual supply of crude oil  
16  available in Cushing through the pipeline and I think  
17  we need to encourage a joint venture from Devon  
18  Energy and Continental Resources and build a new  
19  state of the art refinery. They could develop  
20  gasoline and diesel technology and then they could  
21  bring Chesapeake and Sandridge in to refine propane,  
22  butane and compressed natural gas.

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, what would be good is  
2 if you could submit those ideas to the State  
3 Department to the desk for consideration.

4 MR. VINCENT: Okay, thank you.

5 MS. COLEMAN: I appreciate it.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thanks. #50.

8 MR. ABERNATHY: Thank you. Good  
9 afternoon. Tim Abernathy. I'm a proud member of the  
10 Laborers International Union of North America. I'm  
11 also a proud U.S. citizen. I just wanted to give my  
12 support and you people in here on the other side --  
13 all people in here we can come together. Let's get  
14 this done. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #51  
17 please.

18 MS. KELSO: I am Sue Kelso, landowner from  
19 Bennington, OK and since the beginning, TransCanada  
20 has stated that this is crude oil going to go through  
21 that line. They never told us that it was tar sands,  
22 the first meeting we had in Durant, OK. And it has

23

1 bitumen mixed with it and we -- then there was some  
2 gentlemen said that they're going to put this  
3 pipeline 20 or 30 feet underneath the water table.

4 That's impossible whenever it's going to  
5 be buried four feet below the surface. And we almost  
6 settled with TransCanada but then I got to hearing  
7 about the spills they had and there was a spill in  
8 the Kalamazoo River over two years ago and they  
9 haven't finished cleaning that up.

10 Then I got concerned well, the waterways,  
11 the wildlife, then these waterways empty into the  
12 lakes, the lakes provide water for everyone, so I  
13 think it's an environmental hazard to have these  
14 spills and then they're talking about, like this is  
15 the only oil there is available to the United States.

16 I read in the paper where there is  
17 trillions of barrels of oil under the Colorado Rapids  
18 that they could drill for. So they need to explore  
19 other areas other than just TransCanada XL pipeline.

20 Thanks

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your

23

1       comments. #52 please.

2                       (Pause.)

3                       MS. COLEMAN: #52 please.

4                       MR. SHEPPARD: Hi, I'm J.D. Sheppard. I  
5       am a proud member of the Laborers International Union  
6       of North America. Many commenters have concerns as  
7       to the safety and quality of the construction of this  
8       pipeline.

9                       American labor and construction centers  
10      are the envy of the world. We construction  
11      craftspeople know more than any other, the hazards of  
12      our industry. Too many of us have not returned home  
13      after a hard day at work.

14                      Labor unions always have spearheaded  
15      environmental safety and construction standards that  
16      protect all of us. The use of -- make no mistake  
17      about it, union labor will ensure the highest quality  
18      construction projects on the planet.

19                      Put our members to work, we will show you  
20      what quality and safety really are. Thank you.

21                      (Applause.)

22                      MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

23

1     #53 please.

2                   MR. HATLEY: My name is Earl Hatley. I've  
3     heard a lot of great things today, especially from  
4     the workers. I was a carpenter for a long time so I  
5     know about work and when you don't have it and I  
6     don't have anything to say about someone that needs a  
7     job. They should have a job. But what I want to do  
8     is something like what Will Rogers always said, I  
9     only know what I read.

10                   And what I want to talk about is the  
11     environmental impact study that's why we are here.  
12     We know that there have been 14 spills on the line  
13     that's already there. That's already documented.  
14     They also say that small holes can go undetected but  
15     will be found before a substantial release occur in  
16     reaches the surface.

17                   Burying four feet down, I want to know  
18     which way will the oil go, up, down or both, defining  
19     substantial and what that means for the Ogallala  
20     aquifers in the sand hills, let alone for Oklahoma.

21                   The permit does not go into this detail,  
22     they said they won't do emergency responses to the

23

1 plan until after the permit, so then they'll have all  
2 the details. So in other words the they're going to  
3 decide later.

4 They did have a 21,000 gallon spill that a  
5 neighbor finally found, called TransCanada and it  
6 took 30 minutes for them to get there and they say  
7 the EIS said they have a 12 minute response time and  
8 they admit that there could be up to two spills per  
9 year, that these small holes can go undetected  
10 because they don't have the technology to detect  
11 those.

12 Is this good for America in terms of  
13 weaning yourself of Mid East oil, which I surely if  
14 we could do. However, the answer is no. 58  
15 refineries in Texas provides half of the U.S.  
16 capacity at 8.4 million barrels per day. 1.5 million  
17 barrels is imported, that's our goal. 2.9 million  
18 barrels is heavy crude that comes from -- wow really?

19 MS. COLEMAN: Yeah. But sir, believe me  
20 if you submit those statistics that you have there to  
21 our colleagues they will put it into the record in  
22 Washington.

23



1                   MR. HATLEY: Okay I just want to conclude  
2     that this is not good for the nation and these guys  
3     need a job so we should deal with all of that.

4                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your thoughts,  
5     I appreciate it.

6                   (Applause.)

7                   MS. COLEMAN: #54.

8                   MR. PHILLIPS: My name is Greg Phillips,  
9     union proud since 1985. To address the concerns of  
10    some of the people here that's in the opposition of  
11    this thing that talk about the aquifers, I don't know  
12    of any federal, state, or any agency that's  
13    recommended that you drink water directly out of your  
14    aquifers in probably 50 years because it's already  
15    polluted. You've got to purify that water.

16                   You know, we need the jobs and it's good  
17    work. I think that they had another concern, is some  
18    of the arrogance, perhaps, we've talked about the  
19    wind turbines and stuff like that. I believe the  
20    people that have wind turbines on their property,  
21    have a residual income and that's my understanding.  
22    I've worked on wind farm, but these people were

23

1     offered tuppence for access to their property and I  
2     can understand that concern.

3                 But, you know, does anybody remember  
4     history books and the manifest destiny. You know, it  
5     is in the best interest of our country and the best  
6     interest of these workers here and your best interest  
7     too because even if you've got an electric car,  
8     you're going to have to have some grease on your  
9     bearings, and that comes from petroleum.

10                (Applause.)

11                MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
12     #55 please. 55? Thank you.

13                MR. WHITMAN: Richard Ray Whitman.  
14     (Speaking in native language) Say we got this done,  
15     they missed the first arrival immigrants on the east  
16     coast and we now relocated to Indian territory  
17     Oklahoma.

18                I'm from the 60s, the Vietnam era and  
19     there was a military jargon language called "going  
20     into Indian country." I heard it again at Desert  
21     Storm, I heard it again referred to in Afghanistan.

22                No objections to that terminology. Yeah,

23

1 we know this Keystone pipeline is once again coming  
2 into Indian territory, the States of Montana, South  
3 Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma.

4 What is that coded language? And I close  
5 with a quote here, for the union workers, "in the  
6 final analysis, we humans can rationalize, revise,  
7 all the statistics, we can extend deadlines, we can  
8 make accommodations for a perceived common good, but  
9 natural law is a strict task master. Dump your  
10 toxins into the river, into your drinking water and  
11 you will inherently eat and drink it. Ascend to  
12 acceptable levels of contamination and sooner or  
13 later your sensitive cells in your human body will  
14 respond." Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #56  
17 please. And may I ask that the other succeeding  
18 numbers also be close to the microphones. We will go  
19 back and forth efficiently. Thank you. 56.

20 MR. MCDOWELL: My name is John McDowell.  
21 I've lived here in Oklahoma for 40 years and I've  
22 been in oil and gas production for all that time. My

23

1 1996 Jeep still leaks more than I'd ever found, but I  
2 do know a lot about oil.

3 My concern is both ways. We need jobs,  
4 boy do we need jobs. I'm always helping my friends,  
5 friends of the family through the church, it's a  
6 terrible problem. We also have a problem with this  
7 pipeline. Because it's different from any other  
8 pipeline I can think of in the country.

9 It's not the material it is made out of,  
10 it's the material that's being carried through the  
11 pipeline that puts us at extremely high risk,  
12 particularly in Oklahoma, where we get our water not  
13 just from the aquifers, Garber Wellington, but we  
14 have lakes all over with rivers drifting in that  
15 carry in contamination.

16 This oil that's coming through the  
17 pipeline, proposed through the XL from Alberta, is 30  
18 to 70 percent more carbon emission than any other oil  
19 produced in this country. We have got to be careful  
20 this pipeline is loaded with this tar carrying lead,  
21 that titanium nickel corrosive elements. It's  
22 anybody's guess how long it would take for this

23

1 pipeline to have major ruptures.

2 We cannot allow this material to come  
3 through this pipeline. The pipeline is not my  
4 problem, it's what's going through it. It is not  
5 refined, it is still -- it's been lightened and  
6 thinned, but it is unrefined and because of it, we  
7 have all this toxic things coming into our country.  
8 We don't need it. We still have ample oil reserves  
9 here in this country and offshore. This problem is  
10 something we don't need to introduce now.

11 I'm not in favor of the pipeline. Thank  
12 you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your thoughts.  
15 #57 please.

16 MS. GEARY: My name is B. Geary. I care  
17 about keeping Oklahoma livable and hope to see it  
18 become prosperous in a sustainable way so Oklahoma  
19 families can live here in health for generations to  
20 come.

21 The proposed Keystone XL pipeline which  
22 TransCanada wants to build will carry toxic corrosive  
23

1 asphalt-like tar sands crude diluted bitumen. This  
2 poses a threat to Oklahoma water and farmland.

3 The project lacks and expert safety review  
4 by the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and  
5 Hazardous Material Safety Administration. There are  
6 no U.S. federal safeguards in place for the safe  
7 transport of tar sands crude.

8 A tar sands pipeline in Michigan had an  
9 explosion in July 2010 with subsequent leaking into  
10 the Kalamazoo River in Lake Michigan and a year  
11 later, the lake had not been cleaned up.

12 Such a pipeline leak in the fragile,  
13 shallow, Oklahoma aquifers could never be undone. I  
14 cannot forget the 14 leaks in one year in the  
15 Keystone.

16 The whole tar sands cycle, from strict  
17 mining to pumping, to refining threatens climate,  
18 water, air, wildlife and health. The extraction  
19 process alone destined to destroy an area the size of  
20 Florida in the pristine Canadian Boreal Forest  
21 qualifies as the most destructive project on the  
22 planet.

23

1           Of course, there has been wild  
2       exaggeration of the possible number of jobs to be  
3       created by the KXL. The State Department's sponsor  
4       of the KXL project has predicted the maximum of 5,000  
5       to 6,000 jobs for the 1,700 mile route. Most of the  
6       jobs non-local and temporary.

7           Is the Keystone XL pipeline in the  
8       national interest? Let us ask rather: is the State  
9       Department's sponsorship and promotion of the  
10      Keystone XL pipeline in our national interest? No it  
11      is not.

12           Over anybody sponsoring the Keystone XL,  
13      the State Department has betrayed us, the people, and  
14      our national interest. The State Department has, in  
15      various ways, allowed the difference between itself  
16      and TransCanada to become utterly blurred.

17           I dispute, by the way, the statement that  
18      the majority of Oklahomans support the KXL. The  
19      majority of Oklahomans know nothing about the  
20      pipeline and when the Oklahoma Senate voted on a  
21      resolution about the pipeline, they hardly knew what  
22      they were voting on.

23

1           The Keystone XL project is a scam of the  
2   first magnitude. Lower gas prices for the U.S.? No.  
3   A TransCanada spokesman testified to the Committee  
4   and National Energy Board that part of the reason for  
5   the KXL is to raise t he price of crude oil to the  
6   Midwest.

7           Will it lessen U.S. dependence on oil from  
8   the Middle East, no. The tar sands crude in the KXL  
9   is to be brought to Gulf Coast refineries largely for  
10  export to Europe and China. Jobs, this is one of the  
11  cruellest myths.

12           Most of the job creation, which has been  
13  exaggerated to the skies, will result in only 5,000  
14  or 6,000 jobs.

15           (Applause.)

16           MS. COLEMAN: Thank you ma'am for your  
17  thoughts. I appreciate it. #58 please. Thank you.

18           MR. STEVENSON: My name is Michael  
19  Stevenson and I'm a life-long resident Oklahoma. I  
20  only have a couple questions like, if this is such a  
21  great idea, why first are the oil sands are coming  
22  from Canada. Why are they letting the U.S. in on it?

23



1     Why not just produce it and find it in Canada.   Why  
2     let us in on it if it's such a good deal?

3                 And if it's going to be producing 14,000  
4     jobs, is that in Oklahoma?   So that breaks down to  
5     2.7 jobs per 1,000.   That's not that great.   You can  
6     give the rest of my time for whoever wants to talk.

7                 (Applause.)

8                 MS. COLEMAN:   Thank you very much sir.  
9     #59 please.

10                MS. CHILDRESS:   Good evening, my name is  
11     Beverly Childress and thank you very much for your  
12     time and your interest in letting all of us speak.

13                I have lived here for 35 years in  
14     Northeastern Oklahoma.   Have grandchildren and  
15     children here.   Of course, my greatest concern in  
16     this pipeline is the pollution to our clean water and  
17     farm lands.

18                The proposal of this pipeline runs the  
19     entire, I guess, width of the Great Plains where most  
20     of our food source for the country is grown.   Also  
21     will be built over the middle of one of the nation's  
22     largest aquifers.                 We must rely on history

23

1 to inform us how the pipeline will function. The oil  
2 industry has a very spotty record of maintenance and  
3 clean-up of the inevitable leaks, which occur in the  
4 length of the pipeline.

5           Yellowstone River in Montana and Lake  
6 Michigan are very recent examples of their  
7 destruction to our clean water areas. We will not  
8 know for many years the total damage done in the Gulf  
9 of Mexico after the BP oil spill. We do know that  
10 entire herring populations were wiped out in the area  
11 of Valdez oil spill.

12           This impacts all the wildlife that feeds  
13 on this food, such a seals which are dying because  
14 the substitute for them does not have the fat in  
15 them.

16           The Alaska pipeline has not been  
17 maintained prior to leaks by most of the oil  
18 companies. Once a leak is detected, the company then  
19 locates the problem and repairs, but for some  
20 company, pre-maintenance is nonexistent. The largest  
21 advantage offered is, it will create jobs, which  
22 every person in this room wants for everyone in the  
23

1 United States of America.

2 Are any of these jobs going to be  
3 permanent for this impacted area? Probably not.  
4 This morning I heard on NPR, our local station,  
5 switching on cars to compress natural gas would be  
6 possible and not expensive. This resource cost .75  
7 per gallon and is now improved to get equal mileage  
8 and performance. It is a cleaner resource and could  
9 be a bridge until we find a better alternative to  
10 oil.

11 This would also create jobs. Many  
12 permanent and some short, to build the fueling  
13 stations we would need. There must be other better  
14 ways to spend our money and these same people in this  
15 room could work on the infrastructure for that.

16 Our government is supposed to protect its  
17 citizens and part of that should be that we have  
18 clean water and good clean food.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. I  
21 appreciate your thoughts. #60 please.

22 MR. WESNER: My name is Charles Wesner.

23

1 I'm Chairman of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Sierra  
2 Club and thank you for allowing us to speak today.  
3 There is a long list of American man-made disasters,  
4 the most recent being BP Deep Water Horizon.

5           Aside from the vast environmental  
6 destruction, all those disasters have at least one  
7 other thing in common. The public and the  
8 responsible agencies that permitted them were assured  
9 by highly paid engineers, lawyers, lobbyists,  
10 politicians, and local boosters of all sorts, that  
11 these systems were safe.

12           The Keystone XL is not worth the risk.  
13 Extraction of the Alberta tar sands itself is an  
14 ongoing global warming enterprise an environmental  
15 nightmare laying waste to millions of acres of oil  
16 forest and wetlands, killing nesting and migrating  
17 birds and wildlife and poisoning rivers.

18           Downstream Native American communities are  
19 experiencing abnormally high rates of cancer. This  
20 is morally indefensible, and how can this be in the  
21 national interest.

22           Then there is the issue of jobs. The tar  
23

1     sands lobbyists claim this project will produce  
2     20,000 high paying jobs and now I guess it's down to  
3     14,000. This is an unsupported, ludicrously wild  
4     claim, even by industry standards.

5             The U.S. State Department estimates it  
6     would generate no more than 6,000 and probably less  
7     temporary jobs over 3 years, and for what? Tar sands  
8     crude produces, from start to finish more planet  
9     warming greenhouse gases than most other petroleum  
10    sources by far and would offset all the emission  
11    gains projected by EPA under their renewable fuel  
12    standards.

13            One of the world's leading climate  
14    scientists and head of NASA's Goddard Institute has  
15    written: "the tar sands of Canada constitutes one of  
16    our planet's greatest threats. If the tar sands are  
17    thrown into the mix, it is essentially game over."

18            If global climate in the national interest  
19    in 2009, then President Obama said, "few challenges  
20    facing America and the world are more urgent in  
21    combating climate change." Many of you are working  
22    to confront this challenge but too often --

1 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, I just wanted to show  
2 you that our time is up so could you.

3 MR. WESNER: This issue will be a defining  
4 moment for this administration. Will this  
5 administration stand up for short-term corporate  
6 profits or for long-term clean energy environment.

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you sir, thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. COLEMAN: #61 please.

10 MR. BRESHEAR: Ben Breshear. I don't  
11 believe this about global warming because I believe I  
12 seen a polar bear outside earlier.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MR. BRESHEAR: We all agree on one thing,  
15 jobs. The Keystone brings it. I believe the one  
16 thing that we don't agree on is environmental issues.  
17 You work with us on the pipeline, see how it's done  
18 the right way, then you will understand.

19 Whoever drives a car, will be guilty of  
20 using this oil.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

23

1     #62 please.

2                   MS. FROST: Hello, I'm Diana Frost from  
3     Normal, OK. My father was a pipefitter, spent his  
4     life at the DX Sunnery oil refinery in Tulsa, that  
5     was after the war. My brother helped build the  
6     Alaska pipeline during the 70s, but times are  
7     different now and I think it is in the best interest  
8     of our nation for you guys, the government to say no  
9     to the proposed XL pipeline and no to last century's  
10    oil and gas energy paradigm.

11                   We desperately need to support, invest in,  
12    and commit ourselves to the burgeoning third  
13    industrial revolution that's going on around us.  
14    This revolution brings together internet  
15    communication innovations, and marries that to the  
16    collection of, storage of, distribution of, and  
17    conversion of renewable energy.

18                   This of course provides lots of jobs and  
19    economic growth for our nation. What we are stuck in  
20    is the old energy paradigm. We find ourselves on a  
21    loop, fueled by oil that leads to our economy never  
22    recovering from this recession.

23

1                   Since our whole consumer world is based on  
2     oil, today when we tried to reenergize, jumpstart our  
3     sagging economy, oil prices go up, all oil prices go  
4     up, consumers than can't purchase anything and the  
5     upstart collapses again.

6                   Remember that there was 60 days before the  
7     big financial meltdown that oil prices rose to \$147 a  
8     barrel. We were all astonished. 60 days later we  
9     got to be astonished again when the collapsed  
10    occurred. Oil will never be cheap again. The  
11    multiplier effect for oil no longer exist.

12                  We've reached the point where economic  
13    growth comes in weak spurts and ends in collapse.  
14    Recovery is harder and harder because of our  
15    dependence on nonrenewable and unsustainable oil.

16                  We can get off this loop and jumpstart our  
17    stagnant economy right now, providing jobs to  
18    everyone. It's been done in San Antonio with CPS  
19    Energy, Ontario, Hawaii, Vermont, and Italy, where  
20    private and public enterprises partnerships are  
21    creating businesses and jobs that build this new  
22    infrastructure.

23



1                   Even China has invested \$41 billion in  
2   solar panels. German has the know-how. They are the  
3   biggest exporter of energy. We are in a transition  
4   moment, we are at the crossroads. The Keystone  
5   pipeline is backward looking, it has no good answers  
6   for us. It can do no good.

7                   Privately, well, yes of course the fuel  
8   will be enriched. As setting Sunday's Doonsbury  
9   cartoon by an honest man speaking to climate change  
10   deniers, "I care much more about my short-term  
11   economic, it's just interest in the future of the  
12   damn planet. Hello!!!" And that is what is at work  
13   here. Do we let loose wealthy entrenched short-term  
14   economic interests trump the future and the viability  
15   of this planet? I hope not. Thank you.

16                   (Applause.)

17                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
18   I appreciate it. #63 please.

19                   MR. ALLYN: My name is Dan Allyn. I'm  
20   proud of being the leader of KAL Energy. I brought  
21   my 12-year old son here so see this because I'm very  
22   proud of what we do here in our country.

23

1                   I am also an international transportation  
2     consultant. I've worked in over 40 countries over  
3     the last 40 years. First thing I'd like to say  
4     nowhere building pipelines and building ships,  
5     nowhere in the world can you find better to build and  
6     operate pipelines or ships or any other devices other  
7     than in the United States.

8                   (Applause.)

9                   MR. ALLYN: The second thing I'd like to  
10    mention is I look at this as an environmental  
11    project. When I was with a major oil company in the  
12    1970s I was involved with the Exxon Manhattan project  
13    which was an ice breaker, taker to go over the  
14    northwest passage, as opposed to building the  
15    pipeline. It was not successful. Fortunately we  
16    built the pipeline due to damage that was done to  
17    that ship.

18                  I don't think people understand who are  
19    for, and I applaud them about being concerned about  
20    the environment, the total impact of what would  
21    happen if this pipeline is not built, the oil would  
22    move to the coast in some fashion, probably a

23

1 pipeline, that it would be through Canada and then it  
2 would be shipped overseas and we would continue to  
3 ship the oil. Same amount of oil but it would be  
4 replaced by this oil into the United States. That  
5 needs to be considered as well.

6 And while I'm no marine engineer and I  
7 support the tankers, they are safe. Been involved  
8 with the first ship that took oil out of Alaska.  
9 They are not as safe, environmentally safe as  
10 pipelines, which are the safest environmental  
11 transportation system in the world. Bar none,  
12 including highways.

13 To not approve this would be a great  
14 mistake and I thank you for your time.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #64  
17 please.

18 MS. JIM: Hello, my name is Rebecca Jim  
19 and I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you and  
20 I appreciate the fact that this is democracy in  
21 action.

22 I'm Executive Director for a small  
23

1     nonprofit organization called Lead Agency and local  
2     environmental action demanded in northeast Oklahoma,  
3     working on the tar creek superfund site, a legacy of  
4     another extraction industry where mining companies  
5     extracted lead and zinc and provided jobs.

6             They provided the jobs that the country  
7     wanted and that they needed. They produced the  
8     metals that won both world wars. 100 years ago they  
9     began that work and they left behind miles of  
10    polluted lands and mountains of waste and generation  
11    of children lead poisoned children their lives and  
12    our nation's lives forever.

13            I don't represent thousands of workers on  
14    an extraction industry, I'm the daughter, like the  
15    woman that spoke before me, I'm the daughter of a  
16    pipefitter who worked in the oil fields in Oklahoma,  
17    Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Wyoming, providing a  
18    living for our family.

19            He knew the industry provided jobs and oil  
20    for the nation and needed was operated by men like  
21    himself and he knew that they worked most honorably,  
22    but mistakes were made and environmental damages

1     happened.  Lands laid waste and waters ruined and by  
2     the operation and by the pure act of time on this  
3     industry and the way it operates.

4             The XL pipeline is not in our nation's  
5     best interest in my opinion, but with all our state's  
6     representatives today speaking as they did, I can see  
7     that this may be approved.  If it is, it is in my  
8     heartfelt interest and yours, and our nation's  
9     interest to make sure that every single thing that  
10    can be done by every operator along the line, for all  
11    the years into the future, operate in that most  
12    safest way that they can because we know that those  
13    mistakes can happen.  Thank you.

14            (Applause.)

15            MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you very much for your  
16    comments.  #65 please.

17            (No response.)

18            MS. COLEMAN:  65?

19            (No response.)

20            MS. COLEMAN:  #66 please.

21            MR. STARK:  Yes.

22            MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you.

23

1                   MR. STARK: Thank you. My name is Michael  
2 Stark, I'm the Business Manager of the Operating  
3 Engineers of Oklahoma. We are the union that  
4 represents equipment operators and this project, as  
5 you know, is been put off for a little while. Here  
6 we really believe and we support every effort to have  
7 this thing built.

8                   If you look at what we are as Oklahomans  
9 and as far as generations of Oklahomans, we are an  
10 industry that is directly focused on oil and I think  
11 that's point has been made real clear today.

12                   (Loud talking.)

13                   MS. COLEMAN: Sorry for the interruption.

14                   MR. STARK: But, you know, I'm a fourth  
15 generation union pipeline builder, that's what I am  
16 and we've tried to diversify in what we do. We're  
17 building wind farm, we're building pipelines, we  
18 build roads, along with the laborers and everybody  
19 here tonight and what we'd like to see is that this  
20 get approved. It makes a lot to us. I'm a livestock  
21 raiser myself and you've heard from people already  
22 this evening.

23

1           The focal point I think, in my opinion,  
2   growing up in the area I did in northwestern Muscogy  
3   County down there I grew up in a neighborhood of WWII  
4   veterans and the word ally meant a whole new thing.  
5   It really did sink in with me and if you want to  
6   focus on that, focus on what the gentleman said  
7   earlier about this oil will be sold -- they'll build  
8   the pipeline. They'll build it right to the coast.

9           It will be shipped and this is the safest  
10   way to transport it. It's the most efficient way to  
11   get it there. It's the safest and the most efficient  
12   way to transport oil and if we're not part of it,  
13   we're going to shrink by, Oklahoma will shrink by if  
14   we don't jump in here and get in the middle of this  
15   industry.

16           So I just want to thank you.

17           (Applause.)

18           MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. #67 please.

19           MR. ALEXANDER: My name is Gene Alexander.  
20   I'm here with Laborers International Union. I'm a 48  
21   year member. I've seen a lot of changes. I went to  
22   California, worked on the waterway, brining water  
23

1     when they said it would be unsafe to bring it from  
2     northern California to Los Angeles and the pipelines  
3     around Vegas. So far I've don't know of anybody  
4     dying. I've worked on the wire system in San  
5     Francisco, on the metro system in Washington, D.C.

6             Our people need to work, we don't need to  
7     be sitting at home. Foreign oil and this is a change  
8     bringing that down and it's the safest, most  
9     economical way to transfer this oil and we either got  
10    to change or die. That's all I got to say.

11            (Applause.)

12            MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
13    comments. #68 please.

14            MR. GLASGOW: Yeah, I'm Jason Glasgow, I'm  
15    with the International Union of Operating Engineers  
16    and I'm a pipeline operator. And I want to thank  
17    every union member that's here standing up and  
18    fighting for everybody else. That's what it's all  
19    about.

20            (Applause.)

21            MR. GLASGOW: And bear with me, I'm a  
22    terrible speaker. I'm J.C. Glasgow and I'm a union

23



1     pipeliner. I've been doing this for many years now.  
2     Today I just went to touch base on environmental  
3     stewardship. I know it's kind of off base, you hear  
4     most of the construction workers, not being  
5     environmentalists, but we all are.

6             Most of us construction workers are all  
7     avid outdoorsman. You always hear everyone talking  
8     of hunting and fishing. Everybody in my industry is  
9     this way, and so is most of my family. So when I  
10    speak on environmental issues, I speak with a with  
11    deep sad emotions because the great outdoors really  
12    does need to be protected.

13            And so it terrifies me for the chance of  
14    700,000 barrels of oil today might be transported on  
15    today's highways. To me that's the greatest threat  
16    to our environment and as a union pipeliner, it's  
17    every pipeliner's job, whether you're laborer,  
18    whether you're an operator, to instill the federal  
19    environment regulations.

20            We follow these codes to the letter. With  
21    surgical precision we build these pipelines. Give us  
22    a chance to do our craft and protect the environment

23

1 at the same time. So I'm die hard for the Keystone  
2 pipeline. Thank you guys.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
5 #69 please.

6 MR. HANSEN: Thank you for letting me  
7 speak. My name is Robert Hansen. I'm also with the  
8 Laborer's Union. I'm here also for myself but also  
9 for my grand kids and my kids future. As they talked  
10 about having the impacts of the environment and all  
11 that, I have faith in us that we will build it right.  
12 If you give us that faith we'll do it and give us all  
13 jobs. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #70  
16 please.

17 MR. GONZALES: Good evening. I am Matt  
18 Gonzales. I am a second generation union member and  
19 proud of it. My father is a member of Local 627 and  
20 ten months out of the year he works out of state  
21 across the country. He has also been to Saudi Arabia  
22 doing pipelining there.

23

1                   I just urge the Committee and the Congress  
2   to pass this so that we can create jobs for our union  
3   brothers and sisters and to bring him home. Thank  
4   you.

5                   (Applause.)

6                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #71  
7   please.

8                   MR. MCFARLAN: Good to see you again. My  
9   name is Kenneth McFarlan, Jr., I reside in Oklahoma  
10   City. I am originally from the East Coast, North New  
11   Jersey.

12                  I am representing myself and my brothers  
13   and sisters from our Laborers International Local 107  
14   of North America. I am reading my speech from the  
15   heart from which I prepared this evening.

16                  A lot of people in the house comment about  
17   the risk. Risk is dodging the stolen vehicles in the  
18   streets of North New Jersey. Risk is the cries of  
19   our loved ones hungry from not having dinner the  
20   night before and you don't get your unemployment  
21   check anymore because of the funding has run out.

22                  Risk is the concerns of us all whether it

23

1     be the environmentalist, whether it be our air,  
2     water, or energy. Whether it be the threat of a  
3     spill? There is always a risk and that potential of  
4     a spill. But today, with all of our technology and  
5     our safeguards, we try to prevent the risk.

6                 We as a people only try to take these  
7     measures one step at a time. Yes we do react.  
8     Sometimes not as swiftly as we all hope, but we do  
9     try to accomplish our goals. We as a people are  
10    trying. Yes we are going to make mistakes but that  
11    is our way. We learn from our mistakes. We learn  
12    from our mistakes as we live each and every day.

13                We are blessed to get up each and every  
14    day and I applaud our nation's officials to have this  
15    debate. This is our democratic way. We are the  
16    American public. We are the locals, the unions, the  
17    environmentalists, the scientists, the students,  
18    young and old.

19                The purpose of this pipeline is simple,  
20    stimulate the economy with jobs, decrease the  
21    dependence of foreign crude. Jobs is the issue, jobs  
22    is the issue, not short-term, not skewed numbers, but  
23

1 realistic figures. Long term employment for  
2 generations to come.

3 I am a Christian and a hard worker and  
4 I've been on the unemployment line. I know what it  
5 is to be sacrificed, but we will all be sacrificed  
6 without this pipeline. Of course there are risks, we  
7 are Americans, we take risks. Life is a risk and we  
8 live on.

9 Vote "yes" to the Keystone XL pipeline.  
10 It is in the nation's best interest. Thank you  
11 again.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
14 #72.

15 MR. ANDERSON: Yes, my name is Floyd  
16 Anderson. I just wanted to say America was built  
17 with labor and unions. We are all here to work  
18 together. We all have to eat together and if this  
19 pipeline makes construction work, it's going to make  
20 people like this here in Oklahoma, from here to  
21 Canada, it's going to feed everyone. We all got to  
22 live together, we all got to work together and we got  
23

1     today's technology to keep the spills from happening.  
2     You'll have more spills going down the highway than  
3     you're going to have through the pipeline  
4     underground. We've got to live together, we've got  
5     to work together. That's what I got to say.

6                     (Applause.)

7                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #73  
8     please. 73? Thank you.

9                     MR. CHRISTIAN: I'm Reverend Mark  
10    Christian, lead Minister of First Unitarian Church in  
11    Oklahoma City and I want to -- is there something  
12    going on over there? I didn't see anybody rise, I'm  
13    sorry.

14                    MS. COLEMAN: Okay, let's start with #73.

15                    MS. ZORN: My name is Nancy Zorn. I'm a  
16    member of Change Oklahoma and the Sierra Club. I've  
17    been a proud supporter of unions all my life but I'm  
18    even prouder to say that the Keystone XL pipeline is  
19    not in the national interest.

20                    The soil that we call tar sands combines  
21    10% of a thick tar-like substance that can be  
22    converted to oil after it is separated from the tar  
23

1     sands. When the original oil growth trees from the  
2     Boreal Forest are cut down my new can begin. This  
3     process uses vast quantities of fresh water and huge  
4     amounts of energy from natural gas.

5             Each and every barrel of crude oil require  
6     surface mining of two tons of soil, two tons of soil  
7     for one barrel of crude. Once mined, this toxic tar-  
8     like bitumen is still so thick and gooey that it has  
9     to be diluted and forced through pipelines.

10            The Keystone I pipeline now in operation  
11     ruptured 14 times during the year 2010 pouring toxic  
12     crude onto farm lands and pollution toxic water.  
13     Even when these lines don't rupture, they often leak  
14     at joints because of the corrosive and abrasive  
15     properties of the oil, and this leaking often goes  
16     undiscovered for long periods in large western  
17     ranches or across our Northern Prairie.

18            This is especially alarming to the people  
19     of Oklahoma because the proposed pipeline runs right  
20     over the Ogallala aquifers that supplies fresh water  
21     to America's agricultural heartland.

22            This is 30% of all the water used in the

1     agriculture of the entire United States. A single  
2     pipeline failure could gush 7.9 billion barrels of  
3     tar sands crude into this aquifers that provides  
4     water to 3 million people. I'm  
5     for jobs too, however the jobs offered by the  
6     Keystone XL pipeline are not anywhere near the amount  
7     you've heard claimed tonight. I'd like to say in  
8     support of the third industry -- was it over?

9 MS. COLEMAN: I'm sorry ma'am, time goes  
10 so fast.

11 MS. ZORN: That was three minutes? I  
12 thought you said two.

13 MS. COLEMAN: Yeah. Ma'am please submit  
14 your comments to the desk and we will make sure they  
15 are completed counted. Thank you very much

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. COLEMAN: #74 please.

18 MR. CHRISTIAN: I apologize, you get  
19 between a preacher and a microphone and it's really  
20 problematic place to be. I'm Mark Christian, I'm  
21 lead Minister at First Unitarian, Oklahoma City and  
22 before I begin my comments, I want to just observe

23



1     for the State Department that to hold this on a  
2     Friday night, a Shabbat during the high holy times of  
3     Judaism, is equivalent of having this on Easter  
4     Sunday. And just observe as a process observation  
5     that that really is disempowering to a significant  
6     part of our population.

7                     (Applause.)

8                     I do want to say though that no one that I  
9     know doubts that you guys and women in the orange and  
10    the green are the hardest working people, the best  
11    quality workers that are out there.

12                    No one doubts for a moment that you are  
13    environmentalists and no one, at least I don't doubt  
14    that you are going to do everything you can possibly  
15    do to make sure that this is done right. But there  
16    are risks and we're finally hearing talk about risk.

17                    And I have no doubt that the people who  
18    were here earlier from Devon and from Chesapeake and  
19    those college students who are hoping to be working  
20    for Devon and for Chesapeake also know that there is  
21    risk, and their risk is economic risk and they're  
22    balancing economic risk and people risk.

23

1                   And the one other piece as a preacher that  
2    I want to bring to you, is asking the question of are  
3    we taking all the benefit now or are we leaving  
4    benefit for the future?

5                   To ask if we are being good stewards of  
6    petroleum that we are given and how long we're going  
7    to have it or are we planning to use it right now.  
8    And the question that I want to raise is whether or  
9    not pushing forward a method to move faster to get  
10   more of the existing petroleum which is a fixed  
11   amount in the whole world, right now, is doing  
12   something for our children or now.

13                  Yes we need jobs, yes we need good jobs,  
14   but our children need to have a world that they can  
15   have too. Our grandchildren need a world that they  
16   can have too. And there are some questions that I  
17   want to raise what's going on about corporate focus,  
18   whether they're trying to get a quick profit now or  
19   whether they're looking at the long run.

20                  Once again I know everyone who works on  
21   those jobs is going to do everything they possibly  
22   can, but are they going to be given the right

1 equipment to do it in the absolute best way, we don't  
2 know.

3           Secondly I want to ask a question about  
4 the way already they are seeing inherent health  
5 problems develop among the first nations of Canada  
6 and those people are being treated as though they are  
7 expendable. The people who are in the area that is  
8 basically whole valleys being stripped away who are  
9 already developing cancers and a number of health  
10 problems that the XL pipeline folks have said they  
11 are essentially expendable.

12           In my view as a person of faith, there is  
13 no such thing as an expendable human being. There is  
14 no such thing as an expendable generation. These are  
15 hard questions and I hope we take them all quite  
16 seriously. Thank you.

17           (Applause.)

18           MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #75  
19 please.

20           MS. RIDDNER: Hi, my name is Janine  
21 Riddner. I work for World Water Company and we  
22 actually draw water from the aquifers. And we pump  
23

1     it out of the ground, we serve nine different  
2     communities and seven of those we do not have to do  
3     any kind of treatment to the water.

4             So you do get it right from the aquifers  
5     we know that accidents will taint our groundwater and  
6     project Keystone I has already proved that. In the  
7     last year there have been 14 accidents, 14. This  
8     project is called XL for a reason. This is going to  
9     be a big pipeline and this oil is different. It's  
10    going to be very toxic, corrosive tar sands crude.

11            We only have so much fresh water. There  
12    is no doubt -- this is a manmade project and we know  
13    all of you work really, really hard, but it is  
14    manmade, so it's not really if an accident is going  
15    to happen, it's actually when is an accident going to  
16    happen. Thank you.

17            (Applause.)

18            MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your thoughts.

19    #76.

20            (No response.)

21            MS. COLEMAN: #76 please.

22            (No response.)

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: 77 please proceed, thank  
2 you.

3 MR. STEPHENSON: Ms. Coleman, Mr. Maggio,  
4 I'm going to make you an offer. I'll come moderate  
5 and you give my speech. You've heard it enough, I'm  
6 sure you can give it.

7 One thing I heard the very first meeting -  
8 - Philip B. Stephenson. One thing I heard in the  
9 very first meeting from a good friend of mine, Randy  
10 Miller, he was talking about dirty oil.

11 I'm going to give you a number, 6,230.  
12 That 6,230 jobs that will not be needed. That's the  
13 number of our men and women overseas that will need a  
14 job. They've given their lives for this country,  
15 trying to defend it and trying to procure oil from  
16 the Middle East. That is damn well dirty oil.

17 We've discussed the need for jobs. I  
18 represent the Plumbers and Pipefitters Union. I  
19 represent only the pipeline members. I assure you  
20 that number, 13,000 construction jobs is a real  
21 number.

22 That's the number that's going to be used  
23

1 from the people in the orange shirts, the people in  
2 the green shirts, the operating engineers, the  
3 laborers, the pipefitters, welders, and the  
4 teamsters. That is a real number, I assure you.  
5 We're construction people. There is not a person in  
6 here that's ever had a permanent job. I assure you,  
7 that's what we do for a living, we knew when we got  
8 into it, what it was, it's construction. You build  
9 it, you go on, you do the best job you can, then you  
10 go build another one. Thank you for your time.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
13 #78 please.

14 MS. CRAWFORD: Good evening. Thank you  
15 for having me. My name is Rosemary Crawford. I'm  
16 from Shawnee, OK. I'm in a real unusual position  
17 here in that I feel like I'm a big part of what they  
18 call the sandwich group in my generation.

19 I want to remember quite vividly my  
20 ancestors. I'm old enough to remember their elder  
21 years when they walked, my great grandmother used to  
22 tell me about her mother who walked to Indian

23

1     territory whether she wanted to or not. They had  
2     nothing when they got here. However, what they did  
3     have was each other. They had clean air to breath,  
4     they had water to drink, they had food to eat, and  
5     they prospered and they built a home in this land we  
6     call Oklahoma.

7                 In the last two years I have spent time  
8     studying the differences between bitumen and crude  
9     oil. The EIS that I read, the final EIS indicated  
10    that you made studies going back as far as 1999 and  
11    beyond on crude oil and I'm here to tell you that my  
12    belief today is that bitumen is not crude oil.

13                We have statistics of the EPA has now  
14    gathered from the 2010 spills that we heard about all  
15    evening that states quite clearly that there are  
16    clear differences. They write in the handbook today  
17    because they don't know what to do with the spill  
18    that took place in the Kalamazoo River.

19                The differences is that they don't know  
20    how much of that bitumen product is down there or how  
21    to clean up. The mess is still there. So I'm now  
22    faced with having the idea that I need to stand up

1     and stand up firmly because if I don't, our future  
2     generations, my grandchildren, my great grandchildren  
3     that are still not born, will not have what their  
4     ancestors had, clean air, clean water, food, and the  
5     ability to prosper. They will not be able to have a  
6     job because they will not be able to live.

7                     (Applause.)

8                     It's basic and it's primal. And that's  
9     where I am and it's a real hard place to be. Thank  
10    you.

11                    (Applause.)

12                    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you, thank you for  
13    your comments. #79 please. Is the mike working over  
14    there for you sir? Okay.

15                    MR. BENNETT: I'm Mack Bennett. I'm  
16    Director for the Operating Engineers, representing a  
17    little over 400,000 active members. Here tonight to  
18    support the Keystone pipeline. One of the reasons is  
19    jobs. We've already talked about all the good stuff.  
20    You know some people say it's 20,000, some say it's  
21    6,000. You know, even if it's 6,000, that's 6,000  
22    less people that's going to be drawing unemployment

23



1     and they'll provide for their families.

2                 You know, all along this route, all the  
3     way from Montana, all the way down to Ft. Austin, TX,  
4     this goes through a lot of the communities.

5                 I know you all have heard me over the last  
6     two places, you know I live in a small rural town in  
7     Texas. We've consolidated our school systems because  
8     we don't have funding. I'm also a firefighter. We  
9     went to four people and had four people on our fire  
10    truck, we're down to three now.

11                They have to cut back, they have to cut  
12    back, have since cut back. If anybody along this  
13    route, especially the cities and stuff, can use this  
14    money. We've hardly talked about the spills. There  
15    was 14 spills, but they're not spills but leaks. It  
16    was 120 barrels, all 14 of them and they was all  
17    above ground, nothing was below ground.

18                You hear when people talk about the  
19    Kalamazoo, you know the response and stuff, we had  
20    people working on that spill. They want to make  
21    sure. They said it took more than a year to clean it  
22    up, you know, they want to make sure they got it all.

23

1                   They say in response, I got a phone call  
2   that night that it happened, I think it was about  
3   three in the morning, they let the contractors know  
4   they was en route to go fix that spill.

5                   You hear them talking about the  
6   Yellowstone, same thing. The reason the delayed  
7   response because of the flooding there, once it  
8   began, we was out there cleaning up. They don't do  
9   something halfway, if you're going to do it you do it  
10  right.

11                  All these guys in here with the UA,  
12  they're laborers and even the teamsters that's in  
13  here, these guys have put their lives into this work  
14  and stuff. Like Phil Stevenson said with the UA,  
15  there is no permanent job. I wish I had a permanent  
16  job, but we know we all be replaced.

17                  So in closing I'd like to say that the  
18  operating engineers support the Keystone pipeline.  
19  Thank you.

20                  (Applause.)

21                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
22  comments. #80 please.

23

1 MS. PARKER: I'm Alice Parker. I'm a  
2 citizen of the United States and a resident of  
3 Oklahoma, that's who I represent. Thank you.

4 I believe that it is not the right thing  
5 to do in that one cannot sacrifice our environment  
6 for 14,000 jobs. I'm not willing to sell out for  
7 that price.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #81  
10 please.

11 (No response.)

12 MS. COLEMAN: #82.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: #83.

15 (No response.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: #84. 84 thank you.

17 MS. MCCAULEY: I'm Patricia McCauley. I'm  
18 actually reading a statement prepared by someone  
19 else. Canada's tar sands are the largest fossil fuel  
20 project in the world, Canada's fastest growing  
21 source of greenhouse gas emissions and the most  
22 destructive project on the planet.

23

1                   Unlike conventional oil which flows freely  
2   once tapped, the tar sands are a mixture of crude,  
3   bitumen, sand, clay, minerals and water that lay  
4   underneath the Boreal Forest of Canada.

5                   The region contains almost two trillion  
6   barrels of oil mixed in with dirt, but reaching it  
7   means destroying an area larger than the State of  
8   Florida. The process for reaching the oil and  
9   extracting it from the sand means turning vast  
10  stretches of forest into toxic barren landscapes.

11                  First the forests are stripped and cleared  
12  in order to reach the earth that contains the crude  
13  bitumen. Then the earth is mixed to extract the  
14  bitumen which gets mixed with large amounts of fresh  
15  water, heated by natural gas, mixed again with  
16  chemicals to remove any remaining clay and minerals.  
17  The leftover toxic waste water gets dumped into open  
18  lagoon pits, called tailing ponds and these toxic  
19  lagoons are so large, they can be seen from outer  
20  space.

21                  Major oil companies, banks and investors  
22  are pouring billions of dollars into the development

23

1 of a Canadian tar sands and the government has  
2 created tax breaks and incentives for them to do so.  
3 The Boreal Forest and wetlands, the epicenter of the  
4 Canadian tar sands, is one of the world's last  
5 remaining, intact echo systems, and they will be lost  
6 if we don't stop the expansion.

7 If left unchecked, the project will turn  
8 Alberta into a toxic landscape. As a proven toxic  
9 waste and an environmental hazard, I am completely  
10 shocked that this project is even being considered.

11 President Obama ended an era of practice  
12 consistent with having White House staff rewrite the  
13 findings of scientific environmental regulations and  
14 reports when they disagreed with results.

15 Truly the tar sands pipeline project  
16 definitely falls into this category and indicating  
17 that unless the President is willing to go back on  
18 his word, the scientific environmental proof should  
19 be enough to negate further discussion of this  
20 subject.

21 President Obama has also signed a bill  
22 stating that he is committed the federal government  
23

1 to increase research and the use of renewable clean  
2 energy sources. The tar sands project is neither  
3 clean nor renewable energy. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
6 comments. #85 please.

7 MS. OAHLER: My name is Shara Oahler. I'm  
8 a member of the Laborers International Union of North  
9 America. I'm also a single mother of five children,  
10 one who is a soldier in a hostile country trying to  
11 keep peace so we can continue to get oil from foreign  
12 countries.

13 We should do everything in our power to  
14 utilize the oil in North America and our dependency  
15 on others. Thank you for allowing me to have a  
16 voice.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #86  
19 please.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. COLEMAN: #87. You're 87?

22 MR. PRICE: Yes ma'am.

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

2 MR. PRICE: Hi, my name is Adam Price. I  
3 live in Norman, OK and I was formerly employed in the  
4 oil and gas industry as a geologist for several  
5 years. First of all, as you've heard several  
6 different times tonight, the Canadian tar sands are  
7 absolutely not oil.

8 It's a very high concentrated, heavy  
9 hydrocarbon substance called bitumen and requires a  
10 tremendous amount of both fresh water and natural gas  
11 to be able to extract the sand from the substance and  
12 to artificially mature the gas to a state to  
13 artificially mature the hydrocarbons to a point that  
14 it can even be refined.

15 It's very resource intensive and it is  
16 absolutely not cheap oil, which is not what we are  
17 looking for at this point. As an example, in 2008,  
18 when the price of oil collapsed from roughly \$147 a  
19 barrel in July 2008, to several months later to a  
20 price of nearly \$30 per barrel.

21 The production from the oil sands also  
22 fell along with it roughly by about 200,000 barrels

23

1 per day. Since then, since the price of oil is  
2 subsequently climbed to roughly about \$80 a barrel at  
3 this point, production from the oil sands has  
4 rebounded along with it and roughly as you've heard a  
5 couple of times tonight, the current production  
6 capacity is between 700,000 and 800,000 barrels a  
7 day.

8               With projections from the Canadian  
9 government saying that potentially by 2010 production  
10 could potentially increase with increased efficiency  
11 and increased technology to roughly 3 million barrels  
12 a day.

13              It sounds like a lot of oil, but when you  
14 take into account the fact that prior to the  
15 recession in 2006 and 2007 that domestic oil  
16 consumption in the United States was roughly 22  
17 million a day, even that 3 million barrel a day mark  
18 is only a small percentage of what we would require  
19 for consumption, roughly about 20 to 15 percent.  
20 That is if you assume that that 3 million barrel a  
21 day mark is actually accurate.

22              That also assumes that all of that oil



1 would be used for domestic consumption, which is not  
2 the case with the tar sands oil. The Keystone XL  
3 pipeline, to my understanding, is primarily an export  
4 pipeline, with a lot of that oil, a large percentage  
5 is going to be shipped overseas to places like Europe  
6 and Latin America and potentially China.

7 This is not oil and this is not money that  
8 is going to go to help the American people. This is  
9 essentially a money making endeavor by a few  
10 companies that will not be filtered back into the  
11 United States economy.

12 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, I regret that you have  
13 run out of time. Please submit your comments though,  
14 I would appreciate it. Thank you very much.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: #88 please.

17 MS. MCKEOWN: My name is Becky McKeown.  
18 I'm also a member of the Laborers International  
19 Union. I am the mother of a combat veteran and I  
20 think we need to think ahead of all these men and  
21 women who are coming home, who don't have jobs. My  
22 son had been out of work for over six months. Being  
23

1 a combat veteran he also went to school to be a  
2 welder and there has not been jobs for some of that  
3 type of work in Oklahoma.

4 I would like to see this come through,  
5 even if they are considered temporary jobs for the  
6 construction, we have some of the best construction  
7 workers and pipeline workers. We have experience in  
8 Oklahoma and Texas on pipeline.

9 (Applause.)

10 I would like to see these jobs become  
11 available also to the combat veterans who are coming  
12 home. We need to look ahead. I thank you for your  
13 time.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #89  
16 please. Thank you.

17 MS. FRANCIS: I am Mary Francis. I am  
18 here to speak concerning this pipeline but first I  
19 want you to know that I've been a member of the  
20 union, I support unions. Unions brought you the  
21 weekend, they brought you the 40-hour week, they  
22 brought you health benefits, they really stopped

23

1 child labor. Unions have been getting a bad rap for  
2 about 30 years now.

3 I want to talk to you about the Department  
4 of Energy and their report. The Department of Energy  
5 says that demand for oil has been declining since  
6 2007. This is mostly because of the newly enacted  
7 fuel efficiency and of course it's only going to get  
8 worse.

9 The Department of Energy report on the  
10 Keystone XL found that decreasing demand through fuel  
11 efficiency was the only way to reduce Middle East oil  
12 imports, with or without the pipeline. Access to the  
13 U.S. Gulf Coast via the pipelines expected to  
14 strengthen Canadian crude oil pricing by removing the  
15 current glut in the Midwest which is where that oil  
16 goes right now.

17 There is a depressed market there and  
18 their prices are much low than what they expect to  
19 get if they can send it on down to the Gulf Coast.  
20 TransCanada's own consultant testified to the  
21 Canadian National Energy Board in 2008 that part of  
22 the purpose of the pipeline is to raise the price of  
23

1 heavy crude oil in the Midwest. The resulting  
2 increase in the price of crude is estimated to  
3 provide an increase in annual revenue to the Canadian  
4 producing industry, costing the U.S. \$3.9 billion.  
5 That was the testimony.

6 I have here a letter from the U.S. Senator  
7 Widen where he writes to a federal commission and  
8 I'll read the first paragraph of the letter then I'll  
9 give you the three page letter.

10 "I am writing to request Federal Trade  
11 Commission investigate whether a grievance exist  
12 among Canadian oil shippers that violate U.S.  
13 antitrust laws." This letter was written in April.

14 "The agreements involve transportation of  
15 tar sands oil by the proposed pipeline which will  
16 span the length of the continental U.S. and allow tar  
17 sands go to bypass existing Midwest."

18 MS. BATES: And I think I have learned a  
19 lot from them. Earl explained to me about the impact  
20 that this would have on us. This is foreign oil  
21 coming through here and if we did get to keep it all,  
22 it would be like less than 10% of what we need.

23

1                   But in fact we probably wouldn't keep any  
2   of it because they already have deals with other  
3   countries, China and Saudi Arabia and other countries  
4   to take the oil to them. It's not oil that's coming  
5   to help Oklahoma, it will raise the price of oil in  
6   Oklahoma and give expensive oil to people in other  
7   countries as well.

8                   Running this through Indian country as  
9   they did, they chose to run the whole thing through  
10   Indian country is environmental racism and we're  
11   talking about environmental justice. It is an Indian  
12   issue but it's more than an Indian issue. It affects  
13   all of us and all of our grandchildren.

14                  I just can't believe that the United  
15   States would continue the path consistent with  
16   Manifest Destiny. After all that our Native  
17   Americans have been through, I don't understand how  
18   we can continue to use them as our stepping stool.

19                  (Applause.)

20                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
21   #92 please.

22                  MS. SHYDUROFF. Hi, my name is Sasha  
23

1     Shyduroff and I live here in Oklahoma City. The  
2     Keystone XL pipeline and the tar sands that it  
3     transports is not in the interest of our state or our  
4     nation's best interest. It threatens our public  
5     health and safety.

6             We all need clean water to live and this  
7     pipeline will cross rivers, lakes, aquifers in  
8     Oklahoma and throughout the nation. And when it  
9     leaks, and I say when, because it will, when it leaks  
10    it will threaten this water supply.

11            Oklahoma, similar to our neighbors in  
12    Texas, has suffered an extreme drought this summer.  
13    We've had extreme drought, heat and wildfires. And  
14    while 112 degrees is very uncomfortable to live with,  
15    it has also affected our agriculture here in this  
16    state and caused wildfires that have damaged people's  
17    homes and livelihoods.

18            So I ask why would we threaten our water  
19    supply here in Oklahoma that is already dwindling  
20    because of drought.

21            Now let's be real about why this pipeline  
22    will be built. It's not being built so that we can

23

1     have good jobs, it is not being built so that  
2     Americans can have cheaper oil free of security  
3     threats, it is being built so that TransCanada  
4     Corporation can make more money and put more money in  
5     its pockets.

6                     (Applause.)

7                     According to a Friends of the Earth  
8     report, TransCanada has been threatening American  
9     landowners with imminent domain and legal action if  
10    they don't allow them to build the pipeline through  
11    their land. This is without proper permits or even  
12    at the State Department or our government putting  
13    that ok through and landowners have been scared,  
14    they've been nervous about the pipeline.

15                    So the State Department itself has only  
16    predicted only 6,000 jobs to be created from this  
17    pipeline. The pipeline won't be made of American  
18    manufactured steel. It will be imported steel, which  
19    doesn't sound very union friendly to me. And the tar  
20    sands will be refined in Texas, causing cancer to  
21    those that live around it and it will then be  
22    exported to Europe and China. These markets have

23

1 already been lined up for those if you look at who  
2 actually owns TransCanada, you might be surprised.

3 So I wonder why do we have to choose  
4 between good jobs that will feed our families or  
5 between a health environment and clean water. Why  
6 can't we have both.

7 As a young person I believe in a future of  
8 a clean and green economy with solar panels and wind  
9 turbines built by union workers. We cannot afford to  
10 invest in this dirty fossil fuel that will certainly  
11 mean game over for our climate change because of how  
12 carbon-intensive it is.

13 So I urge you, the State Department, to  
14 stop this pipeline by stating that it is not in our  
15 American interest and making sure that the  
16 administration knows that. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #93  
19 please. Yes, thank you.

20 MS. MEUNIER: My name is Lydie Meunier. I  
21 am an American citizen, resident of the State of  
22 Oklahoma and a member of Move On. Facts to be

23



1     considered for this project go beyond vastly inflated  
2     projections of jobs made without any promise of  
3     contracts.

4             Ensuring national security does not depend  
5     on how much of the highly polluted tar sands oil is  
6     flowing through lands, fields and rivers, and  
7     especially due to the fact that this oil is to be  
8     exported to other countries.

9             Due to a variety of factors, internal  
10    corrosion, earth shifts, lack of maintenance or lack  
11    of security oversight and a lot of other things. The  
12    walls of the XL pipeline will not be able to stand  
13    forever. The quick corrosion caused by the extra  
14    high pumping pressure designed to move 1 million  
15    barrels of highly corroding tar sands a day, which  
16    will undoubtedly lead to leaks and some of them being  
17    undetected for some time.

18            The longer the pipeline the higher the  
19    probability of damaging oil leaks throughout the  
20    American Great Plains. In fact, Plain Justice  
21    reviewed TransCanada's emergency response planning  
22    and found that TransCanada is not adequately prepared

1 to respond to an emergency or spill.

2 Even TransCanada admits that an emergency  
3 spill from a 36 inch XL pipeline can quickly release  
4 1 million gallons of oil, due to the extra high  
5 pumping pressure system. The Keystone XL pipeline  
6 will, if built, jeopardize American agriculture and  
7 threaten this country to depend entirely on food  
8 imports.

9 The toxic contamination of water streams  
10 and the farm land irrigated by them that are along  
11 pipeline routes will progressively destroy American  
12 agriculture if this pipeline were to be approved.

13 Likewise, all leaks into our rivers and  
14 into the Ogallala aquifers will threaten our  
15 resources and drinkable waters which human life  
16 depends on. And because of this our nation would be  
17 better off to sign contracts with companies eager to  
18 develop alternative clean energies and for which  
19 there are many opportunities of jobs.

20 In so doing, qualified workers would not  
21 only be able to be employed, will receive paychecks,  
22 buy homes and pay taxes, but will also be able to

23

1     stay in the homes they buy, why? Because they will  
2     be able to drink nontoxic water, breath nontoxic air  
3     and rely on the national supply of food growing in  
4     our American Great Plains.

5                 There is no greater national security than  
6     this. Let us not wait until the last tree has died,  
7     until the last river is poisoned and our agriculture  
8     is destroyed. We cannot eat tar sands or eat money  
9     that folks are hoping for.

10                MS. COLEMAN: Ma'am, I appreciate your  
11     comments but unfortunately you are out of time.

12                MS. MEUNIER: Just finished.

13                (Applause.)

14                MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. Could you please  
15     submit your comments. Thank you, appreciate it. #94  
16     please.

17                MS. GRAHAM: I wonder why this wasn't done  
18     on a statewide level and hasn't been brought up. The  
19     larger the project the more difficult it is to check  
20     ceiling and that type of thing that happens on  
21     something that's so large.

22                COURT REPORTER: Identify yourself please.

23

1                   MS. COLEMAN: Your name as you start out.  
2   Just spell your last name too.

3                   MS. GRAHAM: Anyway I think it would be  
4   better to do on a smaller level, state by state. The  
5   safety of our pristine lakes built with vision and  
6   hard work by Oklahomans after surviving the dust  
7   storm of the 30s, is of paramount importance.

8                   Suffering any leaks such as the Kalamazoo  
9   leak is not in the best interest in my Oklahoma. I'm  
10   not a native Oklahoman, I'm A Missourian and any  
11   foreign entry polluting our soil or our fresh water  
12   or our air is never in the best interest of our  
13   nation.

14                  So therefore I oppose the approval of this  
15   project because I think it's just too large to  
16   handle. Thank you.

17                  (Applause.)

18                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
19   comments. #95 please.

20                  MS. KUNZ: My name is Christina Kunz. I'm  
21   an OU nursing student and as a future health  
22   professional, the proposed Keystone XL pipeline  
23

1     terrifies me. The idea of a 2,000 mile pipeline  
2     spanning six states, three major rivers and the  
3     Ogallala aquifers which supplies water to more than 2  
4     million Americans, not to mention the nation's  
5     agricultural breadbasket, is alarming.

6                 Even more alarming is the fact that  
7     TransCanada Keystone I pipeline has already spilled  
8     14 times in less than a year of operation. The oil  
9     contained in these pipelines is not only more  
10    corrosive to the steel pipe it is carried through,  
11    but it also contains known human carcinogens such as  
12    heavy metals, mercury, copper, lead, ammonia,  
13    benzene, cyanide, phenols, tuelene, arsenic, and too  
14    many others to name.

15                Already in Canada, downstream from there  
16    the tar sands are extracted and processed.

17                MS. COLEMAN: (Lights went out) Oops,  
18    we're going to get this fixed.

19                MS. KUNZ: Do I get my three minutes?

20                MS. COLEMAN: Yes you do.

21                MS. KUNZ: Thank you. Already in Canada,  
22    downstream from where tar sands are extracted and  
23

1     processed, polycyclic, aromatic, hydrocarbon  
2     concentrations have increased 40% over the past 10  
3     years since mining began. This directly corresponds  
4     to the dates of the Keystone XL mining in that area.

5             These hydrocarbons are already having  
6     disastrous effects on the small indigenous  
7     populations that live downstream from these mines.  
8     In 2009, the Alberta Cancer Board found cancer rates  
9     30% higher than expected and spikes in other serious  
10    health problems have reported, such as rare cancers,  
11    renal failure, lupus, hyperthyroidism, infertility  
12    and birth defects. Now magnify that to over 3 million  
13    Americans.

14            Should the pipeline leak or spill, and  
15    it's not a question of if, but rather when, this  
16    poisonous tar sands oil would not only wreak havoc on  
17    our environment, but also our water supply, our food  
18    supply and our health. And who would be left to  
19    clean it up? We've already seen how oil companies  
20    like BP clean up spills and rectify damages in the  
21    Gulf and TransCanada would prove no different.

22            Individual states and communities in  
23

1 Oklahoma would be left with the responsibility of  
2 cleaning up oil spills at huge taxpayer expense,  
3 that's you and me. While TransCanada profits off of  
4 the destruction and human suffering left in their  
5 wake.

6 And let me be clear, the effects of these  
7 carcinogens will be felt for decades to come. They  
8 will be felt by the men and women who develop cancer  
9 or other crippling diseases year from now. They will  
10 be felt by the children who are born with crippling  
11 deformities and genetic disorders and no amount of  
12 short-lived jobs or tainted money are worth the  
13 health of our families.

14 A country cannot be stable and its  
15 national security without health people. And it's  
16 inexcusable that this is being used, and these unions  
17 are being used as an excuse to create jobs when these  
18 jobs will not be created.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you ma'am. Thank you  
21 very much for your comments. #96 please.

22 MS. STRAWN: I'm Sheila Strawn. I am a  
23

1 native Oklahoman. I live in Midwest City. I'm  
2 coordinator of the Sustainable Living Organization at  
3 the First Unitarian Church in Oklahoma City and I  
4 teach Biology to non-majors at a local university.  
5 It is my responsibility to inform my members and my  
6 students about health and environmental science as  
7 well as the species with which we inhabit the earth.

8           To do so, I need to know some answers that  
9 I can incorporate into curriculum and structure and  
10 discussion so that they can make better decisions at  
11 the voting booth as well as in their professional and  
12 personal lives.

13           Answers to the following questions will be  
14 extremely important. Why isn't the tar sands oil  
15 going to be refined closer to its source, in Canada?  
16 Why is such an environmentally dirty product piped  
17 from Canada to Oklahoma and why should it be pumped  
18 across the entire length of the U.S. to a port in  
19 Texas?

20           As state of the art technology, it is  
21 planned to leak once every 7 years, why is it leaking  
22 as much as 14 times in 1 year. Even if it were just  
23



1      once every 7 years, when those leaks find their way  
2      to the water supply such as the Ogallala aquifers, it  
3      will ruin livestock production, agricultural crops in  
4      many municipalities many times over. Why should we  
5      allow such frequent failure rates with such dire  
6      environmental consequences? Tar

7        sands oil extraction has impacted huge parts of  
8        Alberta, disrupting ways of life in indigenous  
9        communities. Canadian travel communities and U.S.  
10       tribes who strenuously object to this destruction of  
11       the environment, why is the U.S. even considering it  
12       in light of citizen's objections?

13 Tar sands production will require billions  
14 of gallons of water per year. Is there sufficient  
15 water for that production without compromising water  
16 quality for U.S. agriculture and communities?

17           Is it true that oil companies currently  
18    receive a 15% tax credit for using enhanced oil  
19    recovery methods and can write off expenses of  
20    injectants? Is it true, due to deregulation,  
21    producers do not have to disclose the chemical  
22    contents of injectants used to separate the oil from

23

1 the substrate?

2 Why would the federal government give oil  
3 companies these tax credits and write-offs to degrade  
4 the environment with chemicals it doesn't even know  
5 the contents of?

6 Are those injectants toxic or poisonous?

7 If we don't know what they are using, how could we  
8 possibly know if they have adequately prepared for  
9 spill cleanup? Why after spending funds to develop  
10 clean and renewable energy sources such as solar,  
11 wind and biofuels, would the U.S. government fund the  
12 development and production of tar sands energy  
13 sources that would increase carbon dioxide emissions  
14 by 14% over current rates?

15 If U.S. refineries plan to import the  
16 dirty tar sands crude for export to Europe and Latin  
17 America, the sales would be tax free with U.S.  
18 citizens paying the environmental price and getting  
19 no tax revenue for it and no energy from it. Why is  
20 the U.S. considering this pipeline when it is for  
21 importing crude and exporting oil the producers will  
22 sell to foreign countries? Is this type of

23

1 production just for the profit of the oil companies?

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
4 comments. #97 please.

5 MS. PEARSON: My name is Whitney Pearson  
6 and I was born and raised in Oklahoma. My family has  
7 lived here for several generations and we hope to be  
8 here for more to come.

9 The threats to our land, water and air due  
10 to this pipeline could, however, be detrimental to  
11 our health, which is why I am here today.

12 I also want to say I appreciate good jobs  
13 and I support unions. I am a member of one myself  
14 currently and I couldn't be happier about that.

15 As you've heard, TransCanada's safety  
16 record is nothing to brag about. Keystone I pipeline  
17 ruptured at least once a month in the first 12  
18 months. It's not a matter of if, but when, as we've  
19 heard today, this pipeline will leak, contaminating  
20 Oklahoma's environment, putting our communities at  
21 risk.

22 This pipeline will not end our dependence

23

1 on foreign oil, what it will do is prologue our  
2 addiction. Unfortunately, this oil is the dirtiest  
3 there is.

4 The State Department estimates the total  
5 employment from the pipeline will be only 5,000 to  
6 6,000 jobs with only 10 to 15 percent from local  
7 labor markets. And most of these jobs are temporary.  
8 Oklahoma doesn't need temporary jobs. We need jobs  
9 that are long term, healthy, and contribute to giving  
10 us a clean energy economy.

11 How could the State Department possibly  
12 believe that there would be no significant impact to  
13 the environment? How could they possibly believe  
14 that it would not cause new air, land, and water  
15 pollution? As I said, the first pipeline has  
16 ruptured at least 12 times.

17 This hearing is about the final  
18 environmental statement and it is lacking in several  
19 areas. I believe you should reinvestigate the many  
20 issues that have been discussed today and I think it  
21 is obvious I don't support this project.

22 (Applause.)

1 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
2 #98 please.

3 MS. MCMAHON: Jean McMahon. First of all  
4 I'd like to say that this polar bear has been treated  
5 very nicely by all the union members. I think it's  
6 because we're all on the same side.

7 I would like the State Department to be  
8 sure to have this document from Cornell University  
9 that refutes the numbers that the oil companies have  
10 given you and that their employees have been led to  
11 believe are true.

12 I address the polar bear to represent the  
13 innocent life forms, animals, plants, that are facing  
14 extinction, 50 to 70 percent by the end of the  
15 century if we don't cut our carbon emissions.

16 The Canadian tar sands is the hugest frack  
17 that we'll ever know and it's going to release a  
18 carbon bond. This is destruction of civilization and  
19 so much of life on the planet. We are already an  
20 ecological system in severe distress. The ocean is  
21 getting too much CO2 from the fossil fuels we burn  
22 and we have 10 years to save the life of the ocean or  
23

1     it reaches a tipping point.

2                   We're going to have all kinds of refugees,  
3     people who live on coastal regions can't feed  
4     themselves.  Oklahoma had a bad summer, it's only  
5     going to be worse if you -- I have a paper by James  
6     Hansen and he connects global warming with these  
7     extreme weather events that happen all over, in  
8     Vermont, flooding and here we have heat and drought  
9     and Oklahoma will become a dust ball, so how are we  
10    going to live, how are we going to eat.

11                  Actually what we have is an ecological  
12    disaster based on overconsumption and it's coming in  
13    conflict with financial system that's in disaster and  
14    we are going to have to learn to simplify our lives,  
15    maybe not drive so much.  We're going to have to make  
16    some major changes and we can do it and humankind  
17    will be better off.  We can just get along and stop  
18    all that shopping at Wal-Mart with that cheap plastic  
19    junk that we don't need and that does not bring us  
20    happiness.  We could be happier.

21                  I could also talk about soil -- we're  
22    losing our soils.  We have Oklahoma losing its soils,

23

1     there is just all kinds of ecological disasters and  
2     humans are not the number one species, we have to  
3     study and understand ecological systems. We're all  
4     independent -- we're not independent, we depend on  
5     each other. The little microbes in the soils for our  
6     food and our life. Thank you.

7                     (Applause.)

8                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
9     comments. #99 please.

10                    MS. DOWNS: Thank you. My name is  
11     Charlotte Downs and I'm a fourth generation Oklahoman  
12     who stands here today strongly opposing the proposed  
13     Keystone XL pipeline.

14                    My family was here before Oklahoma was  
15     even an official state and I plan on being here for  
16     years to come and have hopes of raising my future  
17     children here.

18                    I grew up much in the same way my parents,  
19     grandparents, and great grandparents did, enjoying  
20     clean Oklahoma air and water. If the Keystone XL  
21     pipeline is built, this way of life will most  
22     definitely be threatened and my future children's

23

1 chances of knowing what clean air and water is in  
2 Oklahoma will surely be ruined.

3 I know, as well as you, that this is not a  
4 question of if the pipeline leaks, but when and where  
5 it leaks. The original Keystone pipeline has leaked  
6 more than 10 times since its construction. This  
7 state and this country cannot afford the direct  
8 threat this pipeline poses to our water and  
9 environment, especially when you consider the  
10 probability of the pipeline leaking and the dirty,  
11 inefficient fuel that it will carry.

12 No amount of money that TransCanada passes  
13 out can cover up all the lies and misconceptions they  
14 are spreading and the fact that this pipeline is not  
15 in our national interest. Most of this dirty oil  
16 will be exported and thus doesn't bring us any closer  
17 to energy independence but farther from it.

18 I urge you and all of Washington to oppose  
19 this pipeline because it is the right thing to do for  
20 our nation.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #100

23



1     please.

2                   MS. VESY:  Hi, my name is Miranda Vesey and  
3     when I first came here today I wasn't going to speak  
4     because I don't feel comfortable with public  
5     speaking, but I think this issue is just way too  
6     important to sit quietly.

7                   I strongly oppose the pipeline.  I believe  
8     that we are looking at pros and cons here.  Short  
9     term benefit of jobs that are temporary but long term  
10    we're talking about our food and water supply and the  
11    rest of the environment for years and generations and  
12    generations to come.

13                  I think the risks are way, way too high to  
14    approve this and I urge the state and I thank the  
15    state for giving us, the general public the  
16    opportunity to speak about this, so thank you.

17                  (Applause.)

18                  MS. COLEMAN:  Thank you very much for your  
19    comments.  #101 please.  Thank you.

20                  MS. FINCKE:  Ola Fincke.  I'm here as a  
21    mother, I'm here as a member of Citizens Climate  
22    Lobby.  We're not funded, we're not a lobby that's

23

1 funded, we're not the oil and gas lobby that  
2 basically controls the politicians in the state and  
3 that will make you think, you the unions, that this  
4 is a great idea for you to get jobs. I've  
5 heard a lot about jobs and I know that American  
6 workers can do the best job ever. However, many of  
7 you have said you've never had a permanent job. Look  
8 around you. Who has the permanent jobs in this  
9 country? This is a country with the greatest wage  
10 inequality that we've had since 1970. We might as  
11 well be Pakistan. The top 1% of the population which  
12 includes lots of oil and gas executives controls more  
13 than 40% of the wealth.

14 So I came here, I was going to say  
15 something about global climate change. I'm going to  
16 leave convinced that this gas -- this pipeline will  
17 go through, we will have a few more jobs, temporary  
18 jobs, and we will be adding more than 200 parts per  
19 million to the global atmosphere.

20 And I know the State Department  
21 understands the real threat to global climate change.  
22 It's not running out of oil, it's running out of

1 water.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. FINCKE: It has to do with melting  
4 glaciers and when the glaciers melt, it's not going  
5 to affect our water supply so much as the water  
6 supply of about a billion people -- more than a  
7 billion people in China and India. What do you do  
8 then about failed states? Just vote for this, do it,  
9 but have no delusions our earth is going to be  
10 ruined. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
13 #102 please.

14 MR. MILLER: I'm David Miller, a lifelong  
15 -- well for 10 miserable years in Illinois, a  
16 lifelong resident of Oklahoma.

17 I'm speaking for people who are not yet  
18 born. This will produce a large number of jobs. I'm  
19 speaking as a 30-year member of the AFL-CIO and it  
20 will produce jobs and more jobs than they claim,  
21 actually because the clean-up will go on and on and  
22 on and those are jobs that can't be exported, but

23

1     they are minimum wage jobs, they are not good union  
2     jobs.

3                     (Applause.)

4                     (Applause.)

5                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
6     #103 please.

7                     MR. ESPINOZA: My name is Robert Espinoza.  
8     I'm a little nervous, okay, let me start. The  
9     gentleman saying it's a risk. We all take risk when  
10    we get up in the morning and walk out the door to go  
11    to work.

12                    (Applause.)

13                    MR. ESPINOZA: And the other lady that  
14    says that it's man-made, majority of our stuff is  
15    man-made now, this building is man-made. The other  
16    lady about our ancestors, they breathe, you know,  
17    clean air, drink good water but stop and think,  
18    they're the ones that got us here where we're at now.  
19    So we just got to make the best of it and work  
20    together and make it better.

21                    And they said about power plants, that  
22    they were going to be bad for us, now we enjoy the

23

1 lights and the electricity and everything we got,  
2 right out of power plants, we don't complain and  
3 we're still here.

4 But my thing is, this is America, let's  
5 all work together. If they want to find ways to work  
6 together and find ways to make the pipeline safer for  
7 everybody so we can have jobs, we can send our kids  
8 to school so they can make things better for us in  
9 the future. And I just support the pipeline and  
10 hopefully we'll get it and create more jobs. Thank  
11 you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

14 MR. EXPINOZA: America great, working  
15 together.

16 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. #104 please.  
17 104, 105. Thank you.

18 MR. PHAM: My name is Peter Pham. I am in  
19 support to create jobs so that we can take care of  
20 our loved ones. I am in full support to create jobs  
21 so that we can bring home food for our children.

22 The XL pipeline project will provide jobs

23

1 at the state level and at the national level but this  
2 jobs are only temporary and we will only gain short-  
3 term benefit. However, the completion of the XL  
4 pipeline project will have long-term negative impact  
5 on our environment, our home, our children and our  
6 great grandchildren will have to suffer.

7 Consistent scientific data worthwhile have  
8 confirmed time after time that our dependency on oil  
9 has significantly led to significant climate change  
10 which lead to tsunami, hurricane and more tornado.

11 In all the wars we have been through, we as a  
12 national have defeated them all because we could see  
13 our enemy and we can identify them.

14 Yet we don't see the dependency on oil as  
15 an enemy, as a terrorist. When someone break into  
16 our home, we have no problem identifying our enemy.  
17 The oil addiction that we have been depending on for  
18 many decade is our enemy.

19 We can defeat this enemy and it can be  
20 done through technological innovation that are in  
21 harmony with mother earth. We need to focus our  
22 resource to find clean energy. In doing so, we will

23

1 provide long-term jobs for our people and at the same  
2 time protect our land, our water and air for our  
3 descendant.

4 This is not about ideology, it is about  
5 morality. It is immoral if we allow our children to  
6 go hungry. It is immoral if we do not provide  
7 opportunity for our parent to work, to bring home  
8 food for our children, and it is immoral for us to  
9 destroy our environment because the land we live on  
10 also belong to our future loved ones. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

13 #106.

14 (No response.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: #107.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. COLEMAN: #108.

18 (No response.)

19 MS. COLEMAN: Your number?

20 MS. LUCAS: 108.

21 MS. COLEMAN: 108, thank you. Please  
22 proceed.

23

1                   MS. LUCAS: My name is Amanda Lucas. I'm  
2   the Office Organizer for the Southwest Labors  
3   District Council and what I offer you today is  
4   testimony more than statistics.

5                   First of all, I have extensive training in  
6   safety. I am a construction worker by trade. I have  
7   my electrician's license, my forklift driver's  
8   license. I manufacture airplane composites, and have  
9   been on unemployment for the last year and a half.

10                  My salary went from being able to support  
11   my family to \$130 or \$180, excuse me, a week. I  
12   lived on unemployment for a year and a half before  
13   the Labor Union gave me this opportunity. My father  
14   is a pipeline inspector. He is working in  
15   Pennsylvania right now because there are no jobs in  
16   Oklahoma for him. All pipeline jobs are temporary,  
17   first of all every one of them.

18                  He goes across the United States  
19   temporarily and it would mean a lot to me to have him  
20   here in Oklahoma as well. He is NAE certified. It's  
21   2011, it's all about safety now. OSHA has really  
22   taken over that aspect of everything.

23



1           The guidelines that we live by are so  
2   different now than they used to be. We want to talk  
3   about poverty. The Oklahoma poverty level is higher  
4   than the national poverty level and the economy, they  
5   say that this pipeline will help the economy in  
6   Oklahoma, I'm getting my degree in economy right now  
7   and it's my understand that our economy is the way  
8   that it is because people are scared to spend the  
9   money that they have.

10           Even if it's a temporary job, these people  
11   will have money, they'll invest, they'll buy homes in  
12   Oklahoma. I support this pipeline 100%. Thank you  
13   for your time.

14           (Applause.)

15           MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
16   comments. #109 please.

17           (No response.)

18           MS. COLEMAN: #110. Thank you.

19           MS. DUCHON. My name is Helen Duchon. I'm  
20   from Norman. I'm here because I'm very afraid for  
21   the environment. Just what, the 24th of September, I  
22   think it was, or a few weeks ago, one worker made a

23

1     slight mistake and three states were without  
2     electricity. Didn't mean to do it.

3                 Tuesday in Norman, OK some workers hit a  
4     water line. It wasn't marked and the water from --  
5     belongs to the University of Oklahoma was flying way  
6     above the power lines.

7                 These things are going to happen. So I  
8     say that this pipeline is dangerous to health. The  
9     metals found in the tar sands are neurotoxins and  
10    it's unnecessary. We have a glut of oil and we can  
11    use natural gas. Fleets of trucks are converting all  
12    the time. There are articles about it in the  
13    Oklahoman and the other thing is, it's not going to  
14    benefit the U.S. it's going to go to Texas to the  
15    Valero refinery and they are in a foreign tax free  
16    zone. They don't pay anything to ship out. They  
17    don't pay a tariff and they're going to ship it to  
18    Europe and China.

19                So it doesn't benefit us, we take the  
20    risk, it's not worth it. I want my grandchildren to  
21    live in a safe environment. Thank you.

22                (Applause.)

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
2 comments. #111 please.

3 (No response.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: #112. Okay 112.

5 MR. APPLEGATE: Yes. MS.

6 COLEMAN: Thank you.

7 MR. APPLEGATE: My name is Chris Applegate  
8 and a resident of Oklahoma and I want energy  
9 independence. I'm here today to support American  
10 jobs, not foreign jobs. I believe the Keystone XL  
11 pipeline is another method of exporting American jobs  
12 outside our country, not to mention the countless  
13 environmental factors this pipeline will hold for our  
14 country.

15 The Keystone XL pipeline will be the  
16 dirtiest pipeline in the entire world and it will  
17 have the United States of America written all over  
18 it. Why is there any support for this pipeline at  
19 all?

20 Here in Oklahoma we don't need any oil  
21 from Canada, we're drilling our own energy right here  
22 in our own country with fewer environmental effects

23

1     than the Canadian tar sands. Yes the fracking method  
2     that we use to drill in unconventional American place  
3     has issues and needs more oversights, but it's better  
4     than the Canadian tar sands.

5                 Why are the Canadian energy and jobs  
6     better than American energy and jobs? Well quite  
7     frankly they're not and it's not American either.

8                 Right here in Oklahoma we have Devon  
9     Energy, Chesapeake Energy, Sanridge Energy that are  
10    all drilling for oil and natural gas all across the  
11    country and they're creating jobs right here in  
12    America, not Canada.

13                We also have Verizon Wind Energy, Bergie  
14    Wind Power, GE Renewable Energy Systems, OG&E and  
15    etcetera, that are producing 21st Century energy  
16    solutions and jobs for a green economy.

17                Currently the U.S. sends out \$400 billion  
18    a year, our foreign oil addiction constitutes the  
19    largest wealth transfer in history. It's sacrificing  
20    our future, it's our children's future and our  
21    grandchildren's future. It's fiscally irresponsible  
22    generationally and morally and it's bad for our  
23

1 environment.

2 We need to support American ingenuity and  
3 push our country forward. Spend our money right,  
4 spend our right here in America supporting our  
5 communities and creating jobs in America.

6 A lot of people have touted that the  
7 Keystone XL pipeline will create thousands of jobs in  
8 America. The only problem is that many of these jobs  
9 will be temporary construction jobs. Those  
10 constructions jobs, those American workers would be  
11 working to export most of the full time jobs to  
12 Canada.

13 It'll create some full time jobs here in  
14 America at the ports where the dirty tar sands oil  
15 comes from. It will also create some from all the  
16 leaks in the pipeline to clean up the spills.

17 Do you know how they extract the oil from  
18 the tar sands where they will be getting the foreign  
19 energy? It literally burn the natural gas to heat  
20 the water that they pump into the ground to loosen up  
21 the oil and bring it back to the top where they have  
22 to separate the oil and the water.

23

1                   Then they put the water in sludge pools  
2   where they have large boom sounds going off  
3   constantly to keep birds away or they will die in the  
4   ponds. That's not very cheap energy to me and not  
5   for America either.

6                   Oil controls our lives and our country and  
7   if that's not a national security issue, I don't know  
8   what is. I'm against the pipeline cause I want  
9   American jobs. I want a prospering America. I want  
10  to make sure our children have a future with clean  
11  water, clean air, clean environment. I would rather  
12  keep \$400 billion that we spend on importing oil and  
13  invest in our country. Don't let the Keystone  
14  pipeline take our jobs away, our independence and our  
15  environment.

16                  We are the United States of America and we  
17  should start acting like it. We shouldn't have to  
18  rely on any other nation for our needs. So turn down  
19  the dirty pipeline for all of us and stand up for  
20  America.

21                   (Applause.)

22                  MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

23

1 #113 please.

2 (No response.)

3 MS. COLEMAN: #114. Thank you.

4 MS. GARNER: Hello, my name is Natalie  
5 Garner and I'm here to ask you to please stop this  
6 pipeline and to invest in renewable energy instead.

7 I support unions, nevertheless, this  
8 pipeline will leak bitumen. Deregulation will see to  
9 that and TransCanada has proven that. The all too  
10 common habit of acting for short-term gain at the  
11 expense habit of acting for short-term gain at the  
12 expense of long-term wealth, health, and stability  
13 has led to a failing economy, crumbling schools, a  
14 tighter constitution, the BP oil spill and 14 leaks  
15 in 2010 on the existing TransCanada pipeline.

16 Oil and drinking water is scarce enough as  
17 it is. It is foolish to waste either in this manner  
18 especially because the costs will be borne by the  
19 residents of Oklahoma. And if you do put this  
20 through, then I urge you to please hire as many  
21 independent investigators as you can because that is  
22 one pipeline job that needs to be permanent. There

23

1 is no reason that that should be temporary.

2 They should be all over that pipeline  
3 making sure that it is secure and safe for our  
4 people. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
7 comments. #115 please.

8 MR. POLLARD: Eric W. Pollard. I'm 4th  
9 generation Oklahoman, resident of Oklahoma City. My  
10 grandfather was a Chemist for Conoco in Ponka City.

11 Here we have a serious problem. America  
12 is addicted to oil. This is George W. Bush in 2006.  
13 President Obama has made some more comments and it  
14 actually goes back to Richard Nixon and you know, I  
15 wish we weren't here in this room tonight. If those  
16 presidents had kept their promise and I hope Obama  
17 keeps his promise.

18 In addition to the wind farm jobs, solar,  
19 geothermal jobs, I'd also like to speak to the energy  
20 efficiency jobs and putting the union workers to work  
21 doing rehabs on buildings for geoefficiency, cutting  
22 down on those needs for those dirty oil like tar

23



1       sands in the first place.

2                   Also like to comment to the fact that  
3       we're in direct competition with Canada and the  
4       energy economy and I feel like this is a giant step  
5       in the wrong direction.

6                   Also like to comment quickly on what this  
7       means in terms of our climate. This will be one of  
8       the largest increase in carbon we'll see and I fear  
9       that it will put us in a negative feedback loop which  
10      means the more we pump in the worse off we are.

11                   In Oklahoma we're seeing a lot of floods,  
12      fires, 115 degree heat, unfortunately that's looking  
13      like it's going to be commonplace and doing this tar  
14      sands project will only increase those things  
15      happening.

16                   Again, I'd like to thank all the union  
17      workers here tonight. I'd like to thank the State  
18      Department officials, law enforcement here tonight  
19      and the Reed Center employees for having us and thank  
20      you.

21                   (Applause.)

22                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your

23

1       comments. #117 please. Thank you.

2                   MR. ROSE: My name is Don Rose and  
3       everything that everybody said about being opposed to  
4       this Keystone XL pipeline, they've taken the words  
5       out of what I was going to say to begin with.  
6       Anyways I'm a Canadian and also a permanent resident  
7       of the States, so I can see both sides of the coin  
8       and I see Canadians -- Canada has the most fresh  
9       water in the world and I think we need to look at  
10      water and especially tar sand oil, there a lot of  
11      renewable resource, water -- we can live without oil,  
12      but we can't live without water.

13                   So I think we need to think about making  
14      that pipeline a water supply instead of an oil  
15      supply. Thank you.

16                   (Applause.)

17                   MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
18      comments. #118 please. Thank you.

19                   MS. ROSE: Vicki Rose. I'm a 4th  
20      generation Oklahoman and I live just outside Oklahoma  
21      City and Jones and I appreciate the opportunity to  
22      speak this evening. When I arrived here tonight, I

23

1     didn't know exactly what I was going to say other  
2     than speak in opposition to the proposed pipeline.

3             Now I believe the threats to health and  
4     public safety have been thoroughly outlined by my  
5     Sierra Club and other like-minded colleagues, but  
6     there are a couple of issues that I'd like to  
7     highlight.

8             Jobs -- this is a topic that's been  
9     emphasized tonight and I can tell you, I know what  
10    it's like to be without a job. Post 9/11 I was laid  
11    off and I was unemployed for three years. So now,  
12    one of the things I do is raise food to earn a  
13    living. I am a farmer.

14            Another issue I'd like to highlight is  
15    water. This summer in Oklahoma, living on a farm has  
16    given me an appreciation for water that I've never  
17    had before. I think we all understand you can't live  
18    without water but living on a farm, you understand  
19    how a lack of water is really a threat to your way of  
20    life. You can't raise animals or crops without  
21    water.

22            So from the fresh water used in the tar

1     sands extraction process to the threats to our  
2     aquifers, I think that this pipeline represents a  
3     major threat to public health.

4             Another thing this evening has been trust  
5     us. The company say trust us, individuals ask us to  
6     trust them to do a good job, and I think that no one  
7     in this room gets up in the morning thinking they'll  
8     screw up, but accidents happen. This is a pretty  
9     high profile hearing so we're here tonight is what is  
10    presumably a state of the art facility and how many  
11    times the lights gone off?

12            (Applause.)

13            MS. ROSE: No pipeline is fail safe.  
14    Please do not permit the construction of the Keystone  
15    XL pipeline.

16            (Applause.)

17            MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
18    #119 please.

19            MS. JOHNSON: Thank you. I'm Glynnda  
20    Johnson.

21            MS. COLEMAN: Please proceed.

22            MS. JOHNSON: I'm here as a mother, a  
23

1 grandmother, a native Oklahoma and a Native American.

2 I came looking for answers and I'll tell you what,

3 none of them have been answered. Jobs are from here

4 to, you know, this high to this low to maybe.

5 Temporary full time, we don't know if this is going

6 to help the recession or not.

7 My dad has a water well, you know, he is

8 already getting old. I don't need him to come down

9 with some sick disease from the chemicals that are in

10 this and no one has told me that they can safety.

11 Yeah, these guys, the green shirts and the orange

12 shirts, everyone of them has said I am an excellent

13 pipefitter and I do a great job. I believe that. I

14 really, really do. Do they want to risk their lives?

15 Has anyone done this here? You

16 know, no one has done it here that I'm aware of. I

17 have listened to about 60 union workers, okay, 9

18 people from energy companies, two dozen politicians,

19 I'm still looking for answers.

20 My biggest question is who owns Keystone?

21 Who is TransCanada? Does anyone have answers to what

22 companies invest? I know that one of the energy

23

1 companies from Oklahoma mentioned that they had an  
2 investment in TransCanada, but no one can tell me,  
3 and here we're going, oh we're going to do this from  
4 Canada because -- it's not China or it's not Saudi  
5 Arabia. Nobody can tell me it's not.

6           They're going to take investments, you  
7 know, to help this. Okay, if I want to put an  
8 investment in, can I? are they going to tell me no -  
9 - some Saudi Arabia prince comes up and goes, I have  
10 a half a billion here I can throw in. Are they going  
11 to say no, we don't want your money?

12           People are people. We're all humans. But  
13 as I said, I have so many questions, you know.  
14 Without the plants and the water, there are no humans  
15 period. Everyone of us that's sitting here or  
16 standing here listening right now knows that is a  
17 fact. Without plants, without water, we have no  
18 humans.

19           And I just want answers, you know, I want  
20 some solid answers because I don't want t here people  
21 to get up in a row and say, oh well this is going to  
22 provide this many jobs and the next two people come

23

1 up and say, this is going to possibly provide this  
2 many jobs. All I want is answers.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your thoughts  
5 ma'am. I appreciate it. #120 please. Thank you.

6 MS. BORNHOLDT: Hello, my name is Ann  
7 Bornholdt and I'm a resident of Oklahoma City. A lot  
8 of people have come today and talked about how they  
9 want the pipeline because it will produce jobs and  
10 that the unions have excellent skills and can build a  
11 good pipeline.

12 The issue today though is, does this  
13 pipeline serve the national interest and will it have  
14 an intelligent risk. And I think the answer is no.

15 The State Department lists number of jobs,  
16 from what I've read is about 6,000. To me, this  
17 project is not worth 6,000 jobs. I'll tell you why.

18 The first Keystone pipeline in its first  
19 year, even though I was built by good people with  
20 good intentions, had 14 spills. That's dangerous.

21 The reason that this pipeline would be so  
22 dangerous is because it's built over a huge aquifers

23

1     that produces water for millions of people who do  
2     regularly drink from the aquifers and it is also the  
3     water that's used for agriculture from Nebraska down  
4     into Texas.

5             That's a lot of jobs we're talking about.  
6     If we pollute that water, it's not going to cause  
7     problems that's in the scan of 6,000 jobs, it will be  
8     a lot more jobs that are at risk than that. Many  
9     families will lose their livelihood.

10            I also wonder why we are talking about  
11    building this pipeline. From what I've read, there  
12    is already a surplus capacity for the oil sands.  
13    That capacity is plentiful in the Midwest, so why do  
14    they want to build a pipeline all the way down to  
15    Houston?

16            From what I've read, the reason is cause  
17    they can raise prices in the Midwest and that the  
18    other reason is that from Houston you can ship this  
19    oil around the world.

20            (Applause.)

21            MS. BORNHOLDT: That does not produce any  
22    oil for the United States. This is a pipeline we do

23



1 not need. It's too risky. It's too risky for too  
2 many people and for agriculture and for the water we  
3 drink.

4 We do not need the capacity. Let's use  
5 our union labor to build gas pipelines, wind farms  
6 and other forms of energy. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.  
9 #121 please.

10 (No response.)

11 MS. COLEMAN: #122. Thank you.

12 MS. POKORNY: Hello, my name is Lois  
13 Pokorny. I am a U.S. citizen and I've lived in  
14 Oklahoma for over 30 years. I'm speaking in favor of  
15 energy conservation and in favor of the development  
16 of clean energy alternatives. Thus, in short, I am  
17 speaking in opposition to the Keystone XL tar sands  
18 pipeline.

19 The United States still does not have an  
20 energy policy that emphasizes conservation and clean  
21 energy production and until this country does have  
22 such an energy policy, I stand strongly opposed,

23

1      especially to the notion of bringing in a dirty fuel,  
2      whose extraction itself require too much energy and  
3      which poses such a hazard to other precious  
4      resources, including the Ogallala aquifers.

5                      Clearly, like everybody else who have  
6      spoken, I want to see a high employment rate in this  
7      country. I want to see good paying jobs going to  
8      hard working people who use the money for good causes  
9      like supporting their families. And of course, I am  
10     in favor of unions who stand up for workers' rights.

11                     However, I'd like us, as one gentlemen  
12     said earlier, I'd like us to work together in the  
13     right direction. Clearly jobs will be available in  
14     the developing of the technology to produce and use  
15     cleaner energy and renewable energy sources. Most  
16     likely it will be a different kind of job but it will  
17     be a clean job. Thank you.

18                     (Applause.)

19                     MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
20     comments. #123 please.

21                     (No response.)

22                     MS. COLEMAN: #124. Thank you.

23

1                   MR. BATCHELDER: Good evening. My name is  
2 Nathaniel Batchelder. I've lived in Oklahoma City  
3 since 1969. And thank you all for being here to  
4 listen to us.

5                   I am a Vietnam Veteran and I've worked for  
6 25 years at a nonprofit organization that actively  
7 advocates, educates, and lobbies for jobs, justice,  
8 and for peace. So I do support labor issues and  
9 working families but I'm here to speak against the  
10 pipeline.

11                  Human projects have a way of backfiring.  
12 The titanic was the safest ship ever built, until it  
13 sank. The Exxon Valdez oil supertanker in Prudhoe  
14 Bay was safe until it was not.

15                  The British Petroleum drilling operation  
16 in the Gulf was safe until it was not and all the  
17 nuclear power plants in Japan were safe until they  
18 were not.

19                  The notorious and historic leakage of tar  
20 sands pipelines threatens the entire Ogallala  
21 aquifers that underlies 7 states. There is an energy  
22 future that would provide three times the jobs as the  
23

1 pipeline and provide them permanently. That energy  
2 and jobs future is development of Oklahoma's abundant  
3 wind and solar resources, which when developed, can  
4 supply 13% of America's electrical needs according to  
5 Corporation Commissioner Jim Roth.

6 Indeed, Oklahoma has been called the Saudi  
7 Arabia of solar and wind power. I would also support  
8 a federal jobs program to reinsulated the homes of  
9 every American family living in poverty.

10 And because I support earth's environment  
11 and I am well educated on the climate changes already  
12 taking place as a result of burning fossil fuels, I  
13 truly fear for the future generations on this planet  
14 earth.

15 America must lead the way in developing  
16 clean, sustainable, permanent energy sources,  
17 including solar and wind, which Oklahoma has in huge  
18 quantities that would make the tar sands project  
19 ridiculous. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. We've  
22 come to the end of the list of names that we had. So

1     was there anyone else that was here that wanted to  
2     say something? Please we're still going to keep it  
3     to a time. What's your name and affiliation.

4                   MS. BARSTOW: My name is Anita Barstow and  
5     I'm a fish and wildlife biologist. I work for the  
6     U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I am not here  
7     representing the service. I'm here on my own. I'm  
8     here because on the EIS that was issued shortly  
9     afterwards an error sheet came out that said oh, we  
10    forgot to consider climate change.

11                   I would think that would be pretty  
12    important and something that should have been looked  
13    into during the two years the EIS was being  
14    formulated. The tar sands in the Canadian area  
15    directly underlies the area where the Whooping Cranes  
16    need to fly to get to their nesting grounds.

17                   The pits that the tailings to into are  
18    very attractive to the birds. We only have 270 birds  
19    left in the world, of the Whooping Crane. That was  
20    brought back from 6 in the earlier years. I can't  
21    remember exactly how long ago it was, but we worked  
22    very hard to bring them back from the brink of

1 extinction.

2 This tar sands should be investigated with  
3 the pipeline. I don't think they can be separated  
4 and it should be considered together. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Yes,  
7 ma'am.

8 MS. HARLAN: My name is Colata Harlan. My  
9 nick name is Jody. I'm from Ucon, OK. I'm here as a  
10 volunteer. I'm not from out of state. I was not  
11 paid to be here.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. HARLAN: Last month 1,253 Americans  
14 were so strongly opposed to the XL pipeline that they  
15 were arrested outside the White House. I couldn't be  
16 there with them, I wasn't paid to travel there  
17 either, but I do believe the XL pipeline would  
18 increase carbon pollution, endanger eco systems and  
19 contaminate precious water sources, which are rapidly  
20 becoming more valuable than oil in the United States  
21 and the rest of the world.

22 In Oklahoma we're threatened by drought

23

1     and that includes the Ogallala aquifers, the nation's  
2     largest underground water source which supplies  
3     drinking water to 3 million people and people whose  
4     business is farming. They're the ones that feed us.

5             Refining tar sands crude results in  
6     emissions of sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide,  
7     sulfuric acid mist and toxic metals. The toxic  
8     metals found in tar sands oil are neurotoxins that  
9     contain 11 times more sulfur, 11 times more nickel, 6  
10    times more nitrogen, 5 times more lead, than  
11    conventional oil that we have right here in Oklahoma,  
12    along with natural gas.

13            Transporting corrosive tar, while tar  
14    sands crude through a pipeline leads to spills and  
15    leaks, TransCanada admits it's not a matter of if,  
16    but when and we've heard those stats. 30 spills in  
17    the first year of operation with the first Keystone  
18    pipeline, 14 with the one built last year with the  
19    one built last year from Canada to Oklahoma.

20            Pollution caused by refining tar sands  
21    causes acid rain, smog, and haze. Toxic tar sands  
22    cause real health problems, including lung and

1     respiratory illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis.  
2     People living near the refineries report higher  
3     levels of cancer, compared to the general population.  
4     We've heard a lot about Keystone supporters  
5     exaggerating the numbers of jobs created by this  
6     Canadian pipeline, as much as 13 times. We can  
7     create four times as many jobs as those created by  
8     this oil industry if we went for renewable energy  
9     jobs that would be permanent and non-polluting.

10             The Keystone pipeline would actually  
11     increase oil prices in the Midwest but it won't  
12     reduce U.S. reliance on foreign oil because the  
13     pipeline is being built primarily to export tar sands  
14     oils to other countries.

15             In fact, one of the Gulf refineries is  
16     half owned by the government of Saudi Arabia. We've  
17     seen the devastation caused by massive oil spills in  
18     the Gulf Coast following Katrina and other weather  
19     disasters. Of course, in Oklahoma our Keystone XL  
20     pipeline would be threatened by tornadoes.

21             For all these reasons, we ask you to deny  
22     the Keystone XL pipeline permit.



1 (Applause.)

2 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much for your  
3 comments.

4 SPEAKER: Thank you State Department

5 MS. COLEMAN: Is there anyone else?

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. If that's it  
8 then, I want to, in return, thank you for being a  
9 wonderful audience, for bringing your heartfelt  
10 comments to the floor. I want to tell you that we're  
11 going to take them all very seriously and take them  
12 back and thank you, thank you for coming tonight. We  
13 appreciate it.

14 (Applause.)

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